THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY

VOLUME XXXVII. NUMBER 10. | CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1890. | *Per Annum in Advance* TOWN .....11-8 MOFUSSIL 13-4

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 3RD MARCH.

IT is going the round of the press that "no military garrison whatever will be required in Sikkim owing to the satisfactory arrangements made with China, under which Thibetan influence will be altogether excluded from that State." Though the statement may be correct, it is not at present contemplated to withdraw all troops from Sikkim.

MR. LABOUCHERE in his speech about Cleaveland square scandal stated that the Prince of Wales had used every effort to secure the fullest publicity to the circumstances attending Lord H. A Somerset's disappearance, and that he honoured and respected him for it. He, therefore, handed to Sir Richard Webster the name of his informant regarding the warning given to Lord H. A. Somerset. Sir Richard Webster, however, refused to look at the paper. It has, on the other hand, been openly stated that it was Sir Francis Knollys.

A GENERAL amnesty has been proclaimed in Spain to celebrate the recovery of the young King.

THE French Government prosecutes the newspaper *Egalite* for advising the German Socialists to shoot the Emperior William.

THE forthcoming Indian Financial Statement will be submitted on the 21st instant, to the India Council.

THE Magistrate of Cawnpore asked people to pay 16 years' subscription at once to Lady Dufferin's Fund We are glad to learn that this reprehensible proceeding of the dignitary has attracted the attention of Sir Auckland Colvin, who has called for a report on the matter.

THE Amir has issued the most stringent orders to prevent any news getting abroad regarding his movements and intentions in Afghan Turkistan. The penalty for incautious conversation is only the loss of the tongue: but a detected newsmonger is, it is believed, usually made shorter by a head.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Civil and Military Gazette* gives details which have come from Bajaur of the fighting between Umra Khan of Jandol and his old enemy the Khan of Dir. The latter, with the assistance of his allies, had the more numerous force, it appears, as well as the advantage of a fortified position; and Umra Khan lost heavily. He seems, however, to possess the invaluable military gift of not knowing when he is being beaten, and of keeping his men together under reverses. The result was that the Khan of Dir's force was ultimately driven out, and the fort remained in Umra Khan's possession. Both sides are now collecting all the assistance they can, and fighting on a larger scale will shortly ensue.

A TERRIBLE gunpowder explosion occurred at Rajpura, Patialla, on Monday last. About 300 feet of land was ploughed up or literally blown away, and many persons were killed outright. Eight dead bodies were discovered, and a number of entire families have been buried in the *debris*. The railway station and buildings, though at a considerable distance from the factory, were very much shaken, and some doors and glass panes were blown up and cracked.

JHUNDA, the dacoit, who had recently made himself the terror of the Meerut district, has been killed in an encounter with the police The dacoit and his party came to a village which they meant to plunder. The police, who had heard of this plan, were concealed in a neighbouring village, and surrounded the place where Jhunda had taken up his quarters. The dacoits refused to surrender, but came out to fight, on which Jhunda and one of his followers were shot. Four others were taken prisoners, and have been brought in to Meerut.

THE Government of Madras hopes to be able to lay the foundation of a new public library before leaving for the hills. It will be built by Government on the grounds of the present museum building, being used for a technical institute and library. Towards the latter a Native gentleman gave Rs. 20,000 at the time of the Jubilee.

TUESDAY, 4TH MARCH.

MR. SMITH, in moving his resolution in the House of Commons, regarding the impartiality of the Judges in their report on the Parnell Commission, said, that the object was to do absolute justice. All parties, he said, were rejoiced that the serious charges brought against Mr. Parnell and his colleagues had been disproved, but Mr. Gladstone's amendment to the resolution now before the House suggested that all the charges were false. Mr. Gladstone admitted the perfect *bona-fides* of the Judges and argued that the charges proved were political or ancient. He eloquently appealed to the Conservatives to make tardy reparation of the monstrous wrong they were guilty of.

THE Bulgarian Government has invited the Porte to try to induce the Powers to recognise Prince Ferdinand.

INFLUENZA, or whatever else the epidemic may be, shows no signs of abating in Bombay. The number of absentees from mills is so large that some of the managers declare that if hands continue leaving they are likely to have to close the mills. On Saturday no fewer than 300 children were away from the Fort High School alone.

AN extraordinary scene was witnessed the other day in the Bombay High Court. A Native appealed before the Chief Justice and complained of injustice done him everywhere in the zillah: injustice had been done him in two Courts: even in the highest tribunal justice was denied him. Rather than suffer such injustice, it was better to die, he said, and so saying produced a knife and attempted to pass it across his throat, but was seized by the Court criers and sepoys, who appeased him. It seems the man had a decree passed against him in the Zillah Court, and confirmed on appeal, and had presented the appeal to the High Court.

SIR CHARLES DILKE, it is said, is determined to regain his former position. He has got ready a voluminous statement upon the famous divorce case with which his name is associated and that this will shortly be given to the world. Its publication will be preliminary to Sir Charles seeking to re-enter Parliamentary life.

THE language used by the Portuguese papers in speaking of England and her ministers is simply outrageous. One journal addresses Lord Salisbury as the "Captain of the Isle of Pirates." another refers elegantly to England's "sanguinary flag," and a local poet of eminence congratulates the valiant Serpat Pinto upon the election of "the robber hyœna" from Portuguese territory.

A QUESTION of great scientific import is agitating the biologists: "Are acquired characteristics inherited? Will the son of the blacksmith possess a specially developed right arm, or the daughter of the Chinese lady who has undergone the most miserable agonies of fashion have a peculiarly small foot? According to Herr Weisman's theory of germ-plasm, which is now widely accepted, not only is the answer to these inquiries in the negative, but also that acquired characters generally are not transmitted; and if the German physiologist be right, the effect of the environment on living beings is even less than Darwin imagined. This theory Professor Romanes is subjecting to a critical examination in a series of lectures at the Royal Institution He holds that the doctrine is not sustained; but that plants and animals do acquire and transmit peculiarities, and that the persistence of certain species and of rudimentary organs is to be accounted for by the ordinary theory of natural selection. Professor Romanes mentions one acquired quality which is too certainly inherited—the gout.

LORD STANLEY of Preston has had a serious charge laid at his door. It is said that since his accession to the office of Governor-General of Canada, the habit of cigarette smoking has increased to an extent which renders it a gigantic public evil, and this is said to be largely due to the fact that his Excellency by smoking cigarettes himself has set the fashion. The figures are certainly startling. An anti-t bacco movement is being started in both Canada and the United States.

WEDNESDAY, 5TH MARCH.

WOMEN aspire now-a-days to many vocations hitherto adopted only by men. The latest development in India is a taste for dacoity. A Deccan paper reports:—"Last week two women were stopped on the high road near the Chattersingee by a gang of about twelve women of the *Garoodi* wandering tribe, and looted of all the ornaments on their persons. Nine of these women were arrested by the police and placed before Rao Bahadoor Khanderao Vishwanath Raste, who has committed them to the Sessions."

THE following account of a dinner party in Calcutta published by the Marchioness of Dufferin in her Diary will be read with interest: "Our first proceeding was to address ourselves properly for the festival; and as soon as we got to the house we were taken into a dressing room, were divested of our own gowns, and were draped in *sarees*. Mine was a most successful arrangement The *saree* was lovely, being made of a sort of silk muslin with silver borders, and I submitted entirely to the hands of the costumier, so that when I was finished I found myself in a very pretty and cool costume. We also put on a little extra jewellery, which was lent us, and proceeded to the dinner room. The floor table was very large, for each person requires a great space to dine in this fashion. The cloth laid on the carpet nearly filled the room, and on it were candelabras, and in front of each seat from twenty-five to thirty little silver bowls filled with all sorts of, to our eyes, rather messy food. One large silver dish, with a pile of rice in the centre of it, was before each person, and the edges of this we had to use instead of ordinary plates. I was seated at the top of the table by myself, with a velvet cushion behind me, and I was afterwards much complimented on the ease with which I managed my dinner."

"LONDON Sketched by an Indian Pen" is the title of a contribution forwarded by Lady Hobhouse to *The Indian Magazine*. The contribution is made up of extracts from the diary of the Nawab Mehdi Hossain Khan, Chief Justice of Hyderabad. He is much struck with the English home-life, where "all love and adore one another. . . The mother is a nice old lady and has every authority in the domestic arrangements. . . The father and son go away to the City after breakfast, and return late at night. The old father is received in the house with great rejoicing; the old mother gets up and orders some tea, and the daughters surround their tired papa, who kisses each. Then they all sit round the domestic fire, and the papa narrates his adventures at the different meetings he attended, and the annoyance he experienced at a certain person's obstinacy; the whole family enjoy the talk, and opinions are freely expressed—of course, in favour of the old papa." Next to the home-life he is most astonished at the clubs. "One thing," he says, "about all those clubs that froze the blood in my veins, is that the members go and come without the slightest sign of recognising one another. They are all members of one club, but so far from being acquainted they appear to hate each other."

SOME Conservative members of the House of Commons will be asked to back Mr. Bradlaugh's India Councils Bill. The "backing" of the Bill might, therefore, include all parties in the House, as already it includes all sections of the Liberal party.

THE Madras Government has just declared that it does not consider that the working of the Police Force in that Presidency has been so defective as the Government of India appears to suppose. Lord Connemara, therefore, deprecates the institution of any comprehensive and elaborate inquiry into the Police Administration in Madras.

IT is announced that the Indian National Congress is henceforth to be represented in England by an organ of its own. The new journal is to be called *India*. The present intention is that it shall be published monthly during the time Parliament is sitting; but if need be, it may be issued more frequently. The paper will be under the editorial charge of Mr. William Digby. One of its features will be a *verbatim* report of all questions, motions, and debates in Parliament, relating to India. The leading columns will not advocate any political reform which the Congress has not unmistakably recommended.

THURSDAY, 6TH MARCH.

A STRANGE murder case has just come before the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court and Mr. Justice Straight from the Saharunpore District. It resembled the Dum Dum murder case, which has recently caused so much sensation here, in the fact that there was no evidence of the actual murder, apart from the statements made by the accused themselves. The facts, as represented by the prosecution, were that the wife of a man, named Janki, employed in the Survey Office at Dehra, had for several months carried on an intrigue with another man, named Nuruddin. At the time of the murder, the woman had been put away by her husband, and was not living at Dehra. But Janki cherished a revengeful feeling against Nurud-din, and with the assistance of three friends, named Bhaktawar, Dhana, and Puna, concocted a plot to get him into their power and kill him. In pursuance of this conspiracy Nur-ud-din was decoyed to meet Dhana (dressed up to represent Janki's wife) in a lonely spot about half-a-mile out of the station, and there the other three set upon him, and killed him with *kookries*. The body was discovered the next morning, and by the evening of the same day all four of the prisoners were in custody, three of them being arrested in a village ten miles from Dehra.

THE result of the trial before the Sessions Court was that Janki, Bhaktawar, and Puna were sentenced to death, and Dhana to transportation for life. There was evidence of conspiracy in a statement by Janki's daughter that she saw all four prisoners in her father's house on the night previous to the murder, when Dhana was dressed up in woman's clothes. The girl subsequently denied this statement, and one of the grounds of appeal was that it should not be accepted as evidence, the witness having been intimidated and tutored by the police. The prisoners all made confessions after their apprehension before a Magistrate, in which each man except Bhaktawar strove to minimise his own share in the crime, and throw the blame on the others. At the appeal it was urged that these confessions were not voluntary, but were prompted by the police. The strongest part of the corroborative evidence was as to the finding of a *Kookri*, with marks of blood on it, which was dug up and handed to the police by Punna when he was arrested, and the discovery in Dhana's house of a petticoat and a shawl, the former being proved to have belonged to Janki's wife, while Dhana stated that the shawl was Janki's. Their lordships who heard the appeal decided that, "without considering the statements of any one of the appellants as against the others," they were satisfied that the case was proved against all four, and the sentences passed by the Sessions Judge were confirmed.

THE highest military authorities, says a London paper, view with favour any efforts to promote temperance in the Army, and it is understood that the good work in this connection done by Sir Frederick Roberts in India will be brought before the House of Commons and pressed upon the attention of his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief.

HERE is a thrilling account of the methods of human sacrifice in savage Africa. The victim is placed on a block of wood, with his legs stretched out in front of him. Beside each ankle a small stake is driven firmly into the ground, the same at the knees and at the sides, running up under the arm pits. His head is then placed in a kind of cage formed by a ring of cane fastened round the neck with numerous strings attached to it which are drawn up over the head and tied together in the loop. A pliant young sapling is now stuck in the ground about twelve feet from the victim and bent over toward him until the extreme end is caught in the loop, and all the strings round the ring are drawn tight and the neck stretched stiff by the strain. The executioner then makes his appearance escorted by the young men and women of the village, each holding over him a palm-leaf, forming a kind of canopy. On reaching the victim they fall back and leave him there alone. He wears a cap formed of large black cocks' tales. His face is blackened with charcoal down to the neck; his hands and arms are also blackened up to the elbows, and the same with his legs down to the knees. Until just before the execution the whole village is wild in expectation of the event. Groups of dancers are to be seen, drummers at work, and every kind of musical instrument to add to the tumult. The head, after being severed, is jerked up in the air by the released tension of the pole. Then upon the sight of the blood their vilest and most inhuman passions are aroused. They act like wild beasts, clutch at the head, smear each other in the face with the blood, and the general scrimmage always ensues, resulting more often than not, fatally.

FRIDAY, 7TH MARCH.

WITH his wonted liberality, the Maharaja of Bettiah has subscribed Rs.5,000 towards the building fund of the new Lady Dufferin's Zenana H spital in Calcutta.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR of Bengal during his visit to Chota Nagpore will dispose personally of the appeals brought up by the Kols convicted by the local authorities of certain acts of lawlessness during the recent disputes with their zemindars.

THE *Electrical Engineer* calls attention to the probability that at no distant date the industrial centres of Europe will be Switzerland, Italy and the Scandinavian peninsula. The reason for this belief is based upon the result of the investigation of a commission appointed to examine into the probable duration of the coal supply of Great Britain. Their statement is startling. It is probable that within 100 years the coal of Great Britain will be exhausted and with this exhaustion her industrial supremacy may vanish. The world must sooner or later turn to electricity as the great motive power, and nowhere can it be supplied so plentifully and cheaply than where melting Alpine snows furnish a constant and inexhaustible water-power capable of generating all the electricity needed to move the machinery of a vast industrial centre.

THE scheme for a new Chief Court for Oudh at Lucknow is said to have been revived by the Home Government, in the shape of a proposal that the judges be appointed to constitute such a court.

A CUSTOM observed during the time of the Patiala Council of Regency, by which annual administration reports of the State were prepared and submitted to the Punjab Government, is to be continued under the rule of the Maharajah. Similar annual administration reports on the Jhind State will also be forwarded regularly,

THE following is from *Truth*:—"The two best looking men in the house are, I think, Mr. George Windham and Mr. Sydney Herbert; the best looking Irishman is Mr. Parnell, and next to him are Mr. Arthur and Mr. John O'Connor; the best looking Liberal is Mr. Herbert Gardner; the best looking Liberal-Unionist is Sir Henry James; the best looking man on the Government Bench is Mr. Ritchie; and the best looking man on the front Opposition Bench is Sir Charles Russell. The youngest looking man for his age (he is about 80) is Mr. Isaac Holden; and of the aged the handsomest man is Mr. O'Gorman Mahau. The speaker, in his wig and gown, is a remarkably handsome man. The best debater on the Government bench is Sir John Gorst, and next to him Mr. Balfour; the best on the front Opposition Bench is (I exclude Mr. Gladstone) Sir William Harcourt; and the second best is, I think, Mr. H. Fowler. The best debater among the Irish is Mr. T. P. O'Conner. The best debater below the gangaway on the Government side is Colonel Sanderson, and the best below the Opposition gangway is Mr. Bradlaugh. As the writer has no idea of making himself disagreeably personal, he makes no mention of the ugly men, bores and bad debaters."

MR. A. O. HUME, the Secretary to the National Congress, in writing to the *Bombay Gazette* on Lord Cross's Councils Bill, says:—"I wish distinctly to place on record before leaving India my conviction that the Bill is worse than nothing, that it is simply an insult to the country. It is a case of the authorities to whom we humbly petitioned for bread casting a stone in our faces."

THE Government of India has consented to refund the amount expended from the Provincial funds by the Madras Government for the survey of the proposed East-coast railway, in the event of a company undertaking the construction of the line.

SEVERAL Nihilists have been arrested near the Anitchkoff Palace, where the Czar and his family reside.

REFERING to the Brahmini bull problem, which is just now before the Calcutta High Court, the Lahore paper remarks:—"Whatever the rights of private persons towards the bull may be, those of Government are clear enough. A case recently arose of damage done to the Dehli Cantonment Garden by Brahmini bulls, and it was pointed out that by Section 14 of Act I of 1871, which provides that if in the opinion of the District Magistrate, a fair price is likely to be realised if straying animals are sold by auction, *they may be disposed of in such manner as he thinks fit.* This provision gives a Deputy Commissioner wide powers, and a solution of the difficulty should always be possible; but at the same time, care should be taken to avoid any course which would offend Hindoo feeling."

SATURDAY, 8TH MARCH.

THE Emperor William has authorised the publication of the following statement of his view of the labour question. His Majesty is reported to have said:—"It is all the same whether we reap gratitude or ingratitude for our endeavours to increase the welfare of the working classes. I shall not grow weary in my endeavours. I am convinced this scheme on the part of the State will enable us to reconcile the working classes with their position in the social scale. These endeavours at any rate will give me a quiet conscience for all we do."

A CONFERENCE of coal-owners and delegates from the workmen, held at Westminster, which was convened in the hope of averting the threatened strike of three hundred thousand men who demand ten per cent advance in their pay, has ended in a deadlock.

THE case of Moore *vs.* Norton was opened yesterday before Mr. Justice Shepherd at the High Court. Mr. Willie Grant and Mr. Wedderburn appeared for Colonel Moore. The Advocate-General and Messrs. Robert Grant and Johnstone appeared for Mr. Norton. Mr. Grant in opening the case, stated that the parties had known each other since 1880. In 1881 they quarrelled, but resumed friendly relations in the following year, which continued until four years ago. At the time of Colonel Moore's appointment as President of the Municipality, Mr. Norton met Dr. Bevan at Secunderabad at a race dinner, and said he would get Colonel Moore out of the Municipality. Mr. Norton had been hostile to Colonel Moore in municipal matters, and had for a series of years made statements against him, even after the suit was filed. Mr. Norton wrote remarks upon the case under the heading of "Olla Podrida" in a Hindu newspaper, holding Colonel Moore up to ridicule. He asked for exemplary damages. Colonel Moore was then examined by Mr. Wedderburn.

UNDER cross-examination Colonel Moore said that the first quarrel with Mr. Norton was about a bottle of champagne which Mr. Norton insisted upon keeping on the table. The second quarrel was consequently Mr. Norton's. The strictures in the *Pioneer* upon Mr. Grant Duff's administration, Colonel Moore was then millitary Secretary to Mr. Grant Duff, were made by him.

THE Mail which left Allahabad for Bombay on Wednesday carried with it a petition to Parliament signed by 135 members of the Uncovenanted Services of the N.-W. Provinces. The petition is to be presented by Mr. H. S. King, M. P., and its chief object is believed to be is to ask Parliament for the appointment of a commission of enquiry into the claims of the service.

THE total number of deaths in Calcutta registered during the week ending 1st March was 283, against 267 and 319 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the cooresponding week of last year by 79. There were 25 deaths from cholera, against 19 and 62 in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 13. There were 44 deaths from small-pox during the week, against 45 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel complaints amounted to 67 and 24 respectively, against 70 and 33 in the preceding week. The genreal death-rate of the week was 34·1 per mille per annum, against 26·6, the mean of the last five years. In the amalgamated area of the Suburbs, there were 126 deaths registered during the week under report, of which 10 were from cholera, 7 from small-pox 45 from fevers, 26 from bowel complaints, 10 from tetanus and 28 from all other causes.

IN the course of an interview with a deputation from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, General Strachey stated that in order to keep more closely in touch with the requirements of the public in this country, it was under contemplation to form a local Board of Directors of the East India Company by whose experience and knowledge the Board in England might be guided. This is from every point of view a most desirable step. Had the contemplated Board been in existence, a vast amount of useless correspondence would have been avoided, and many reforms indispersably necessary, could have been not so long delayed.

THE Financial Reform Association of London has interested itself in the duty on silver work, imported into England, and asked Mr. Bradlaugh to take up the question, and endevour to procure the abolition of the duty.

THE Vice-President of the Lucknow British India Association has issued a circular-letter to the Talukdars, asking them to say how many men they can give to the Government in time of need. It is proposed to place one thousand men at the disposal of Government.

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The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1890.

LORD CROSS'S BILL.

II.

ON Thursday last the India Councils Bill was read in the Lords for the second time. As the Bill has not had a chance yet of being considered by the Commons, public opinion in England upon it has not yet been practically sounded. But the tone of the debate in the Upper House upon the second reading of the Bill is somewhat reassuring. Opinions have been freely expressed that the non-recognition of the elective principle is much to be regretted. It is said that Lord Northbrook supported Lord Cross's motion and declared that the Bill would be most popular in India. We do not know what basis his Lordship has for this supposition, which by the way is somewhat inconsistent with his Lordship's opinion that the bill ought to embody some form of elective principle. The Central News Agency and Reuter's Agency are somewhat at variance with each other in regard to what fell from his Lordship; but we are assured that Lord Northbrook advocated some system of election applicable to Local Councils, and condemned the scheme for a Parliamentary Session of the Supreme Council in Calcutta. We do not quite understand what the expression 'Parliamentary Session in Calcutta' means. But let that pass. His Lordship said that there was a large body of educated and capable Indians qualified to serve upon the Councils, and expressed his gratification at the loyal tone of the speeches at the Congresses. Lord Northbrook for one is no go-ahead reformer, as the bitterest enemy of the Congress movement will not hesitate in admitting, and it must be very flattering to the supporters of the movement to have the countenance and approbation of so distinguished and sober a statesman.

Lord Kimberly, a Liberal statesman of great conservative tendencies, spoke in favorable terms of the elective principle, and Lord Granville openly declared that the Government assumed great responsibility in rejecting what Lord Dufferin had recommended. As we tried to point out in our last issue, the opinion of a cautious Viceroy like Lord Dufferin, who had an extensive knowledge of Indian affairs, and had given the question his most anxious consideration, is entitled to far greater weight than the hastily formed opinion of one who had just arrived in the country and had not yet any opportunity of judging the situation. In justice to Lord Lansdowne we are bound to say, however, that we are informed that the documents circulated in the House of Lords include a Despatch, addressed by Lord Lansdowne's Government to the Secretary of State, in which His Lordship expressed his opinion that time had come that 'public opinion should be more largely and variously represented in the Councils.' This does not exactly say that the elective principle in one form or another should be admitted in organising the Councils, but it shows that His Lordship recognises the importance of giving some sort of popular constitution to the Councils. The question which is anxiously asked is whether their representative character can be secured by the system of nomination now in force. It is believed that Lord Cross's Bill instead of reforming the Councils will intensify the evils which are now so loudly complained of. Instead of a small number of *apkewastes*, there will be a large body of them following the behests of the Indian beaurocracy, and enacting the farce which is witnessed at present. As a rule these *nominated* members have proved their incapacity to legislate for the country, and it is reasonable that the people should expect that a change of system should be tried. Where the natural leaders of the people are able and willing to serve on the Councils, have them by all means, but care should be taken that no mere 'titular non-entities', as it has been expressively said, should, in the name of the people, be entrusted with legislative work.

Lord Ripon has declared, we are told, that public bodies should be allowed to elect members. Lord Cross himself had to admit that there is no objection to the Viceroy and Governors of Provinces consulting the Universities, Chambers of Commerce, and bodies like the British Indian Association concerning the selection of members. If His Lordship admits that important public bodies should be allowed to express their opinions regarding the nomination of certain persons, what objections could there be, we should ask, to these bodies electing their representatives in these Councils. No Congress has suggested that anything like universal suffrage should be introduced in India. What the people ask for is that election on a very limited scale only should be tried for the present. And if its extension be proved satisfactory by the results of the trial, the concession may be granted in a wider form. Lord Cross says that his Bill is a further long step towards obtaining the assistance of Natives of ability for conducting the Government. If the system such as now obtains be continued the concession granted will not be of much practical worth. His Lordship must consent to some sort of election by outside bodies not dependent for their existence or prosperity upon the sweet will of Government or its officers and servants. We for one never claimed that election on the English model should be imported into India, and there is no basis for Lord Salisbury's apprehension that election in all forms would be attended with disastrous consequences. Municipal elections which are permitted on no small a scale point to no such results, and although it may be perfectly true that the now small channels will have to be afterwards widened, we do not see what danger will there be to public safety, by such widening, if proper safeguards be provided. His Lordship's analogy of Turkey, and Egypt and Crete hardly applies to our case, because we are and shall always be in direct touch with our English administrators, whose rights and privileges will be hemmed in by large voting powers as well as by the facts that military and foreign questions and other cognate subjects will never come up before these Councils for consideration. As a recognition of principle in all that is sought for at present, there ought not to be this ungracious hesitation for granting a slight concession by the English nation which glories in representative institutions wherever its colonies are planted. Proper efforts will no doubt be made by the English political agency and the Congress delegates to explain to the English public the real Indian opinion on this all important question, and the largely signed petitions that will be shortly sent to Parliament will show how keen the desire of Her Majesty's loyal subjects here is that the elective principle should be recognised and enforced in reconstituting the Legislative Councils in ever so small and limited a scale. All that they ask for the present is that their leaders and representatives should be given a chance of proving their worth, and if they fail they cannot, and will not, complain of the withdrawal of the concession.

FACTORY LABOUR IN INDIA.

IT affords us no small pleasure to find that the leading European Associations in the Bengal and Madras Presidencies are completely at one with us in condemning Lord Cross's decision to amend the Indian Factories Act of 1881, in the direction of additional stringency. At the last annual meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Sir Alexander Wilson, the President, made the following observations on the subject in the course of his address. He said:—"There is another measure before the Legislature which concerns many amongst you, and that is a proposed amendment of the Indian Factories Act. The papers which have come before your Committee since the publication of the Draft Bill all tend to confirm them in the opinion which has already been expressed by the Chamber that there is nothing on this side of India to call for any change in the law relating to factories, whether in regard to the arbitrary enactment of monthly holidays, the raising of the age at which children may be employed, or the lessening of the number of persons employed to bring the factory at which they may be employed, under the Act. The conditions of life and factory labour, the social surroundings of the people, their requirements in the way of food and rest, are so wholly and so radically different from anything which obtains in Europe, that it is impossible to assimilate laws relating to work-people in this country to similar laws in operation in Great Britain or other Western countries; and both employers and those employed will, I think, be found united in their opposition to any change in the existing relations between them." At the last annual meeting of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association the President, Mr. L. P. D. Broughton, in reviewing the work of the Association during the past six months denounced the new Factory Bill in even more emphatic terms than the President of the Bengal Chamber had done. Mr. Broughton reminded us that when the existing Factory Act was discussed in the Viceroy's Legislative Council in 1879, the Hon'ble Mr. Colvin, who had charge of the Bill on that occasion, distinctly stated that the result of the enquiries which had been made was generally creditable to the humanity and public spirit of the mill-owners and managers. The evidence went to show that the factory people were, as a body, in many respects quite as well if not better off than most persons of the same position in life who were not employed in factories." Mr. Broughton pointed out that as Government has not placed before the public any evidence of later date in any way conflicting with Mr. Colvin's statement, it must be presumed that no such evidence exists. He then proceeded:—"I have been told by Sir Alexander Wilson, our former President, that a family of factory people often earns Rs. 60 or Rs. 70 a month. A man working by the piece, as is the custom, can earn from 10 to 12 rupees a month, a woman from 8 to 10, and a child 8, and these wages are paid weekly. These figures compare very favourably with the wages of persons in Government employ; the wages of the peons attached to the Civil Courts in Bengal, for example, are about Rs. 7 a month, and they may be presumed to be persons of better condition and education than factory people, as it is their duty to make written returns to the processes issuing from the Court, showing in an intelligent manner how the process has been dealt with, and on them practically depends the proper execution of the Civil Courts' decrees." Mr. Colvin in the course of the speech of which mention has been made above further said:—"It was most important that nothing should be done which would check the development of manufacturing industries in India. From any point of view it was desirable that this field of capital and labour should be developed and extended to the utmost, and especially because it helped to relieve the pressure of the agricultural population upon the land. * * * The Great body of the people in India had now no employment but that of agriculture, and the result was that in many parts it was daily becoming more difficult for all of them to obtain a livelihood from the soil. The obvious danger of this overcrowding had been brought into special notice during the famines that had lately affected such large parts of India." This being the case, the Government of India should not do anything to check the development of manufacturing industries in this country. But then the cotton-lords of Lancashire are all-powerful, and no English Ministry, whether Liberal or Conservative, can afford to lose their support. Sir James Fergusson, the late Governor of Bombay and the present Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has, in a speech lately delivered in England, plainly told Manchester-men that the present legislation is undertaken in their interest. Nothing could be truer than this statement.

At the annual meeting of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce held at Cawnpore on the 27th ultimo, the President, Mr. W. E. Cooper, also referred to the Factory Act Amendment Bill now before the Legislative Council and observed:—"The Indian Factories Act is still under consideration and I am sure that every effort will be made by this Chamber to impress on Government the necessity there is for the careful deliberation of the views that have been submitted for their consideration by the several Chambers of Commerce as also the able criticisms of the Press on the subject, before the Act is made law. It is fortunately well understood whence comes this solicitude for the welfare of Indian factory

operatives, but Lancashire can hardly be said to be a safe or a disinterested adviser in this particular instance. * * * The physical welfare and general conditions of life of the class of people employed as mill operatives in India compare most favourably with persons in their own rank of life who are employed agriculturally, and this fact is fortunately as fully recognised by the Government of India as by those who are more intimately connected with the manufacturing industries of the country. As a matter of fact there is at the present moment not the faintest necessity for legislation at all, but if the Government feel itself impelled by external pressure to adopt some form of legislation, it is to be hoped that the interests of manufacturers will be sufficiently safe-guarded, and that the provisions of the Act will be so framed as to render them as little harassing and obnoxious as possible." The Government of India, it must be remembered, has no option in this matter. It must meet the wishes of the Secretary of State who, as a Lancashire man, naturally sympathises with the demand of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. All the Local Governments and Administrations in India unanimously reported that no case had been made out for amending the Factory Act of 1881 in the direction of additional stringency. And yet Lord Cross, in the plenitude of his wisdom has directed the Government of India to modify the Act in certain respects. This is exactly what might have been expected from the present Secretary of State for India.

The Madras Chamber of Commerce, in a communication addressed to the Local Government, has dealt with Manchester's demand for the regulation of factory labour in this country in the interests of the operatives in a manner which leaves nothing to be desired. The Chamber says:—"The agitation for the repeal of the import duties in India originated with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, and it was remarked by the late right Hon'ble H. Fawcett that none will for a moment pretend to say that the idea would have been entertained of removing these duties if the finances of India were administered in the interests of that country alone. With equal truth it may be stated that the proposed extension of British factory regulations to India is not prompted by disinterested concern for the well-being of Indian operatives. The success which rewarded the previous agitation was well calculated to encourage further interference with legislation in this country, such as would never be proposed with regard to Canada or Australia; and this Chamber apprehends that the opposition offered in Manchester to such interference is more likely to diminish than to increase unless the Government of India takes an early opportunity of assuring the Secretary of State that the assertions about the length and severity of the hours of labour in this country are greatly exaggerated. The alleged desire to lift up the poor people of India and to improve their condition has so little to do with the demand for justice for the Indian operatives that it may be eliminated from the consideration of the subject; whereas the dictates of jealousy, the wish not so much to benefit a class in India as to recover the China market, self-interest, the discovery that competition in India is too severe, the interest of Lancashire trade, and not the interest of humanity may be reasonably supposed to have some influence on the supporters of the motion." The language used by the Madras Chamber is, no doubt, strong, but it is not stronger than the necessities of the case demanded. Plain speaking of this sort is most desirable in dealing with men who seek to promote selfish ends under the cloak of philanthropy.

THE CAUSE OF THE MILK IN THE COCOANUT.

WE have received from a correspondent the following statement which shows that in the case of sixty-one premises the assessment has been enhanced from Rs. 10,115 to Rs. 22,239. Doubtless some few of these enhancements are due to substantial additions to buildings concerned, which we have not time to enquire, but in the majority of cases they are simply due to the Harrisonian law which forms now the subject of discussion in the native quarter generally. We shall leave for the present the officer concerned to explain how a total of Rs. 10,115 has swelled to Rs. 22 239. Calcutta has not been thriving so rapidly as to show so rapid an advancement in the most backward quarter of the town. Even in the case of repairs most of the cases refer to tumbling old houses, which the proprietors are quite unable to meet the cost of repairing and have been driven to the Municipal authorities to repair at the risk of getting the houses pulled down on their heads. Certainly, these are not cases of improvement, but of absolute necessity. In the European quarters most of the houses are tenanted and the most important condition of their leases is triennial repairs. This is not the case in the backward division of No. I, and enforcing repairs at this rate and enhancing the assessment two or three-fold is the most oppressive course that the Municipal authorities could follow, but we need not dilate upon this point. At the proposed meeting of the rate-payers somebody will be able to explain this in a satisfactory manner.

		Former Assessment	New Assessment
Bagbazar Street	No. 13	156	316
"	" 41-1	96	231
"	" 52	96	198
"	" 57	30	164
"	" 61	192	402
"	" 64-1	120	570
"	" 66	96	215
"	" 69-3	42	113
"	" 69-4	36	102
"	" 69-5	108	373
Bosepara Lane	No. 20-4	3	15
"	" 25	120	258
"	" 25-2	60	152
"	" 33-1	60	152
"	" 34	216	430
"	" 37	240	520
"	" 45	135	300
"	" 46	312	832
"	" 49	240	480
"	" 55	120	353
Ramkanto Bose's Street	No. 13	156	382
"	" 15	300	700
"	" 16-2	60	129
"	" 28	42	108
"	" 38	108	266
"	" 47	72	150
"	" 48-1	96	208
"	" 51	96	348
"	" 51-1	48	200
Gopeemohan Dutt's Lane	No. 11-1	72	170
Shambazar Street	No. 61	60	180
Rajah Rajbulluv's Street	No. 18	720	1800
"	" 66	180	327
"	" 81	96	200
Brindabun Pal's Lane	No. 6	144	276
"	" 15-1	96	300
"	" 16	72	192
Upper Chitpore Road	No. 182	600	1074
"	" 191	60	232
Santiram Ghose's Street	No. 8-4	72	140
"	" 17	216	565
"	" 25	108	306
Mahendra Bose's Lane	No. 7	30	95
"	" 19	216	410
Upper Circular Road	No. 225	144	420
"	" 226	2100	2972
Hurrolal Mitter's Street	No 19	144	350
"	" 32	192	487
Beerchand Gossain's Lane	No. 6-2	36	84
Gossain's Lane	No. 7	120	282
Ramdhone Mitter's Lane	No. 12	300	560
Ramkanto Bose's 2nd Lane	No. 8-1	33	86
Ramkanto Bose's 1st Lane	No. 7	96	200
Chowdhury's Lane	No. 3-1	10	24
Bulloram Ghose's Street	No. 7	156	460
Pal's Lane	No. 3	48	127
Gocul Mitter's Lane	No. 5	72	140
"	" 6	72	190
Hem Chandra Kar's Lane	No. 1-2	120	265
"	" 3	192	338
Rajah Kalikrishna's Lane	No. 5	72	227
	Total Rs,	10,115	Rs. 22.239

THE SONE IRRIGATION QUESTION III.

WE now proceed to sum up the net result of the labours of the Sone Canals Committee. As we have said before, the Lieutenant-Governor does not accept the conclusions arrived at by the Committee on the most important questions. In the teeth of the evidence recorded by Mr. Cotton and his colleagues His Honor holds that canal irrigation is not unpopular; that it does not reduce the producing power of the land; that it does not deteriorate the public health; and that it is very doubtful whether well irrigation is more beneficial than canal irrigation except for opium and barley. We have shown in our previous articles that the Lieutenant-Governor's verdict on all these points is against the weight of the evidence collected by the Committee. In the Resolution recorded on the Committee's report His Honor observes:—"It is probable that the Committee were right in supposing that, at the time when they made their enquiry, there was considerable bitterness of feeling both in regard to the assessment of unauthorized irrigation (which has since for practical purposes been abandoned), and in regard to the rigour with which, owing to arrears having been allowed previously to accumulate to a most injurious extent, collections had recently been enforced. This bitterness has owing to the reforms recently introduced, now subsided, and a careful consideration of all the circumstances in the light of Mr. Luson's enquiry, of subsequent experience and of the opinions of the local officers, convinces the Lieutenant-Governor that the Committee were to some extent misled upon questions of fact, and that the recommendations which followed are consequently not such as the Government should accept." The Committee brought to light the failure of canal officers to exercise sufficient control over the supply of water through the outlet, and to take effective measures to prevent irrigation without permit. We are told that these defects which admitted of reform at once have been remedied. The Government Resolution informs us that, with the approval of the Chief Engineer, the superintending engineers two years ago issued circular orders pointing out in what respects an alteration of practice was required, and also in what points sufficiently minute attention has not been paid to the law and the rules. Canal officers were directed, when at headquarters, to receive complaints daily and to register each complaint separately, though several might be received on the same day from the same village and raising objection to the demand for identical causes. Instructions were also given that five-year leases were not to be granted unless proper village channels actually existed when the lease was sanctioned, and that even if the deposit of funds for their construction would not be accepted as a sufficient compliance with the rule, since from various reasons there might be delay in completing them. These directions, of course, look excellent on paper, but we do not know how far they are carried out in practice. Sad experience has taught that in matters which affect the revenue, the instructions issued by the superior authorities are more honoured in the breach than in the observance, as the subordinate officers know very well that their prospects of advancement depend on the amount of money they can bring into the public treasury. The Government Resolution further tells us that the orders regarding unauthorized irrigation were of a nature to almost entirely stop assessments under that head. We hope earnestly that these orders will be duly enforced. It was only the other day that Sir John Edgar discovered in the course of his tour in Orissa that the directions which the Bengal Government had given for the relaxation of the forest rules in Angul had been quietly ignored by the subordinate officials concerned. Let us trust that the orders issued in March 1888 for the stoppage of unauthorized irrigation to the Superintending Engineer of the Sone circle have not shared the same fate. If unauthorized irrigation has actually been put a stop to, the work of Mr. Cotton's Committee, it must be admitted, has done some good to the poor cultivators.

But the most important recommendation by the Committee has been rejected by the Lieutenant-Governor. His Honor admits that the point in which the greatest interest was manifested is the rate to be charged for rice irrigation. The present charge for annual leases is Re. 1-14, while for five-year leases the charge is Re. 1-4 per bigha or Rs. 2 per acre. The Committee recommended that this latter rate should be reduced to one rupee per bigha and that of the annual lease should also be modified. In a pamphlet by Babu Kundhji Sahai, on certain aspects of the Sone Irrigation Question, he described the reduction recommended by the Committee as being the most important and without which, in the words of the Commission, "no improvement will be accepted as an adequate outcome of the results of the Commission." But Sir Steuart Bayley does not agree with the Committee on this point. His Honor says:—"Of the reasons alleged by the Committee for reducing the water-rate, many

have little bearing on the point. If the system is at fault, it should be altered where defective; if individuals are to blame, they can be punished; but, even if true, they allegations made are not relevant to the point at issue. The public health is a matter of the highest importance, and it is right that such remedial measures as are practicable should be taken, but it does not follow that special advantages should be given to that portion of the community who use canal water and pay water rates. * * * The water-rate to be charged should clearly be fixed as nearly as possible at the sum which, taking one year with another, the cultivator finds it profitable to pay. The experience gained, which is fully setforth in the Chief Engineer's note, shows conclusively that existing rates, so far as *Kharif* crops are concerned, are not too high, and that it would be an injustice to the general tax-payers to burden them with the deficiency in the public revenue which results from any lowering of the rates mentioned." We have in our previous articles fully explained why the results of the crop experiments made by the Canal officers and Mr. Luson should not be accepted as conclusive, in order to determine the value of canal irrigation. The Committee had recommended that systematic experiments should be scientifically conducted by independent agency, and the Bengal Government made a pretence of giving effect to this record by placing a young and inexperienced Civilian like Mr. Luson on special duty for this purpose. And as regards the burden on the general tax-payers, it must be remembered that even with the existing water-rates they have to bear almost the whole of the interest charges payable to the Supreme Government on the capital invested in the Major Irrigation works of Bengal. If they can pay upwards of 21 lakhs for these works, the imposition of an additional burden of two or three lakhs on them on the same account would not be such a grave injustice as the Bengal Government thinks.

It is, however, something that Sir Steuart Bayley has declared himself against any increase in the existing water rates. His Honor distinctly says that a raising of the rate would at the present time be unwise as calculated to lead to undesirable friction with the cultivators who have become habituated to the use of canal water. The Lieutenant-Governor has, therefore, determined to keep the rate for *Kharif* irrigation on long leases at its present figure, Rs. 2 per acre, but to extend the term of the leases from five to seven years, and His Honor has given an undertaking that no increase shall be made in this rate in respect to leases entered into before the close of the year 1895-96. This favourable rate will, however, only apply where the channels are in good order and the waste of water small. For annual leases the rate will be Rs. 3 per acre, as at present. In the case of *rabi* leases modifications will be made involving a reduction of from 20 to 40 per cent., in the hope that the supply of water now running to waste in that season will be more generally utilized. We very much doubt whether this hope will be realized as the cultivator firmly believes that well irrigation is more beneficial to the *rabi* crops than canal irrigation. The arrangements under which water is given for sugarcane will be revised with the view of more precisely defining the conditions under which water is supplied for that crop, and where the consolidated yearly rate is paid remissions will be allowed if the crop fails, whether such failure was due to the deficiency of Canal water or not. The rules will be amended providing that in the *Kharif* season water will only be supplied to associations of ryots cultivating blocks of land to which water can be supplied without the probability of unauthorized irrigation occurring; but the selection of the block will be left to the Canal officer, who will be allowed to exclude land not commanded by the Canal without special arrangements. The assessment of lands irrigated beyond the boundaries of the leased area will be absolutely and entirely prohibited; but where water is habitually wasted or misused, the Superintending Engineer and Collector will have it in their power to cancel leases. But while all this will be done for the protection of the cultivator, strict measures shall at the same time be taken to secure payment of water-rates. The Government Resolution says:—

"There are cases of villages where realisations are never made without coercive processes of one kind or other, and power will be taken to shut off the supply of water to such villages altogether unless half the amount which will become due as water-rates is paid in advance. These extreme measures will be adopted only with the joint approval of the Collector and the Superintending Engineers." The Lieutenant-Governor has accepted the opinion expressed by all the local officers that in some shape or other fees must be paid for the duties performed by the *lamburdars*. The Committee, on general principles, recommended the withdrawal of the magisterial powers from Canal officers. The Lieutenant-Governor, though opposed to permitting Canal cases to be dealt with except by the ordinary tribunals, is unwilling to accept the Committee's recommendation, as the withdrawal of the magisterial powers from Canal officers will have the effect of weakening their hands in times of great demand for water. The Committee made certain proposals for changes in the law. These proposals have the Lieutenant-Governor's approval, but they cannot be carried out without the sanction of the Government of India. On certain minor points Sir Steuart Bayley has accepted or given effect to the proposals of Mr. Cotton's Committee either wholly or in part; but in all other important matters His Honor has altogether rejected their views. The action taken on the Committee's report has been extremely disappointing.

THE EXCISE ADMINISTRATION.

A RECENT number of the *Calcutta Gazette* contains selections from papers relating to the Excise Administration of the Government of India. These selections are mainly from the Despatch of the Government of India to the Secretary of State. The object of publishing them is to show that the administration is free from the charges brought against it. A Resolution, it will be remembered, was passed in the House of Commons, about ten months ago, on the motion of Messrs. Caine and Smith condemning the policy of the Government of India in its Abkari department. The Resolution ran as follows:—

"That, in the opinion of this House, the fiscal system of the Government of India leads to the establishment of spirit distilleries, liquor and opium shops in large numbers of places where till recently they never existed, in defiance of Native opinion and the protests of the inhabitants, and that such increased facilities for drinking produce a steadily increasing consumption, and spread misery and ruin among the industrial classes of India, calling for immediate action on the part of the Government of India, with a view to abatement."

This threw the Government of India on its defence, and hence the Despatch. The Despatch is accompanied by communications from the Government of Bengal. Facts and figures are given to prove the unsatisfactory nature of the evidence before the House of Commons. There is said to have been unfairness in not representing in its true light the change in system made in Bengal between 1877 and 1884. A consensus of opinion of officials and non officials confirms the view that there has been a decrease of drunkenness. They attach very little importance to the opinion of the late Babu Keshub Chunder Sen, given in 1874, and argue that it has no reference to recent years. In regard to the statement of Mr. Lallubhai Gordundas, made to Mr. Caine, that there is no risk of illicit distillation, the Despatch says that Mr. Gordundas denies having made the use of the words attributed to him, and they bear a different meaning. While, on the authority of this gentleman, the reformers maintain that the people of this country are quite indifferent to liquor when it is not within easy reach, the Government quotes a letter of Mr. Lallubhai in which he says that "experience has shown that Kulis, Warlis and other low classes addicted to drink will not mind walking 10 miles to a shop and back in order to get cheap liquor; and, what is even worse, quantities of cheap liquor will always be smuggled into the high-priced liquor tract without much fear of detection; in short the object aimed at of diminishing the consumption of liquor will be defeated." Mr. Smith and Sir William Harcourt hold that no classes of people would care for liquor if it were not almost thrust in their way. In reply to this the Government shows that considerable numbers of the people drink not merely out of habit, but, as they believe, in accordance with religious ordinances. The Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling reports that quite 80 per cent. of the population of that district take liquor believing that dringing is an essential part of religious observances. The charges made against the excise administration are grave and manifold, and an attempt has been made to refute them all. This attempt, we must say, has not been quite unsuccessful.

The Despatch gives a succinct history of the excise administration in India. It shows what the line of progress has been from the Farming system, which was inherited from the Native States which preceded British rule, towards a system under which each gallon of spirit pays a fixed duty. The earliest system was that of uncontrolled farming; the farmer paid a lump sum for the right to manufacture and sell liquor in a specified tract of country; there was no limit as to number of shops, and he made what profit he could out of his farm. The next step was the limitation of the number of shops. A further step was the establishment of the Outstill, under which only the right to manufacture and sell at a specified shop is granted. The chief objection both to the Farming and Outstill systems is that there is no control over the rate of duty per gallon, and, consequently, it may be to the interest of the farmer or licensee to steadily lower prices. It became necessary to consider whether an attempt could be successfully made to establish a system under which each gallon of spirit should pay a fixed duty. This might be done roughly and imperfectly by limiting the capacity of the Outstill, and fixing a minimum rate of duty for the right to work the Outstill. If the Outstill could only produce a certain number of gallons of spirit in the month, and had to pay a certain tax every month, it was clear that each gallon of spirit would bear, at least, a certain rate of duty and could not be sold below a certain price. The Despatch says that 'the practical difficulty in the way of securing this result is the facility which the licensee possesses for distilling in a still other than that which has been licensed. This difficulty is in some cases insuperable. A perfect remedy lies in the establishment of a Central Distillery system.'

An examination of the history of the Excise administration shows that the tendency has always been towards the general introduction of the Central Distillery system; but the practical experience of years, and the results of many experiments, have proved that it is impossible to maintain this system in all parts of India. "Under the Farming and Outstill systems," the Despatch continues, "the interest of the monopolist is enlisted for the suppression of illicit distillation, and sources of information and means of detection are available to him which are not accessible to officials. This is not the case under the ordinary Central Distillery system. Under that system it is to the interest of the distiller both to distil illicitly outside the distillery and to smuggle liquor out of the distillery without payment of duty." It further shows that there are various systems of excise in force in British India according to the minute local peculiarities which render it necessary to have recourse to each system. The key to these numerous and complicated systems lies in the fact that they are attempts to combine the monopoly and fixed duty systems with the object of securing that every gallon of spirit shall bear a certain rate of duty in places where it is not possible to work the fixed duty system in its simplest form.

The system generally followed in the Native States has been an uncontrolled Farming system with practically no restrictions on the farmer to prevent his unduly diminishing the price of liquor or increasing the number of shops. The consequence is that the cheaper liquor of Native States is constantly smuggled into British territory. The only complete remedy for this evil is thought to lie in inducing those States to adopt a stricter system and to impose higher rates of duty; and this the Local Governments have in some cases succeeded in doing in recent years, notably in Bombay and, more recently and to a much smaller extent, in the Punjab. These facts have been adduced to disprove the charge made

that any increase in the habit of drinking in India is due to the proceedings of the excise administration of the British Government and that there would have been no increase had the administration been conducted on the principles that obtain in the Native States.

The objects and principles of the Excise policy are admitted to be the raising of revenue and the regulation of trade in liquor for police purposes. It is recognised, however, that the regulation of the trade in liquor for the purposes of revenue and police might with advantage be so conducted as to discourage any tendency to drink to excess, and to lead to the substitution of wholesome or comparatively harmless liquor for that which was positively noxious. There is no general agreement of opinion regarding the measures which may properly be taken for these purposes. Some of the officers advocate an extreme measure. Absolute Prohibition would, in their opinion, be the most effectual means of preventing the evils which result from an excessive use. The opinion of the Government is that Prohibition is impossible in India, even if desirable. 'The facilities for manufacturing and obtaining spirits are so great, and the desire of many classes for stimulants so strong, as to forbid any hope that universal prohibition could be enforced. A law so much at variance with the stronger laws of habit and desire would in some cases create a contempt for law and a spirit of lawlessness in large classes of the population.'

There is another alternative, and that is Local Option. A system of local option would, we are told, throw the whole administration into confusion, and would in certain places create an intolerable class-tyranny which might have very serious political effects. 'Any system of local option' the Despatch goes on to remark, 'presupposses the existence of a highly developed, system of local or municipal institutions to which representatives are elected by the mass of the people and in which all conflicting interests command their due share of attention. No such system exists in India.' There may not be a 'developed system of municipal institutions' in the country, but it cannot be denied that in almost every village there is a council of elders who exercise great influence over the habit and opinion of the people. These councils, with their primitive ideas of right and wrong, virtually govern the village communities, and it is in their power to check drunkenness more effectively, if temptations be not thrown at the doors of the people, than any 'developed system of municipal institutions.' The organisation of these village councils is such that they can, if provided with proper safe-guards, help the Government in removing many administrative difficulties which are now thought to be almost insuperable.

The system of Local Option obtains in Europe and America, and has many good points to recommend it. It may be the means of saving many towns and villages from utter ruin, and many families from absolute poverty and beggary. By it no grog-shop can be set up in a village without the consent of a majority of the inhabitants The elders and the sober portion of the population surely ought to have some voice in the regulation of the trade.

The Government has after careful consideration arrived at the conclusion that the following principles are safe to adopt in regulating its Excise policy. (1) That the taxation of spirituous and intoxicating liquors and drugs should be high, and in some cases as high as is posible to enforce; (2) that the traffic in liquor and drugs should be conducted under suitable regulations for police purposes; (3) that the number of places at which liquor or drugs can be purchased should be strictly limited with regard to the circumstance of each locality; and (4) that efforts should be made to ascertain the existence of local public sentiment and that a reasonable amount of deference should be paid to such opinion when ascertained. The practical measures which are proposed to be adopted in furtherance of this declared policy comprise (1) the abolition of the Farming or Outstill system in places where it is found practicable to do so, (2) the gradual introduction of the Central Distillery system in its least complex form, (3) the imposition of as high a rate of duty on country liquor as it will bear, subject to the limitation that such duty shall not exceed the tax levied on imported liquor, and (4) the restriction of the number of shops. Where the Outstill system is retained the Government will, as far as possible, enforce the limitation of the capacity of the still, and in some instances a minimum selling price.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

IT is understood that the Indian Financial Statement will be submitted, on the 21st instant, to the India Council, and it is expected that the last meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council at Calcutta will be held on the 20th instant. His Excellency the Viceroy, however, does not leave the Presidency till about the second week of April. Lord Lansdowne must be credited with a desire to remain on the plains as long as possible and on His Excellency's way to Simla a halt of ten days will probably be made at Dera Dhun. His Lordship's surroundings are ill calculated to have full effect given to this praiseworthy desire, and an undue anxiety to get away from business is to be marked in all departments of the Simla-going offices which strikes us as very demoralising. The break-up will very soon commence, and though the Government does not leave its so called capital till about three weeks later, some of the Secretariat offices will be closed as early as the 15th instant, and most of them will have refilled their packing cases before the month is fairly out. In this connection we learn that the new code of travelling allowances will be enforced from this year; and orders to that effect, we understand, have been issued by the Financial Department.

MR. TOYNBEE is spoken of as probably the next Commissioner of the Burdwan Commission. Mr. Buckland, however, will hold the officiating appointment for Mr. Alexander.

MR. PHILLIPS, our Standing Counsel, has been granted leave till the 27th November. Though his successor in office has not yet been named, it goes without saying that Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee will be appointed. When last Mr. Phillips went home, Mr. Pugh officiated for him, because Mr. Bonnerjee was away to England. Mr. Bonnerjee held the post of Standing Counsel several times with so much credit and distinction that it is simply impossible for Government to over-ride his claims, though those claims have so long been overlooked in another connection. There cannot be the slightest doubt that Mr. Bonnerjee should long ago have been appointed to the Supreme Legislative Council, and if Government be sincere in its anxiety to make even the nomination system successful, such sincerity would be proved by the nomination of people of Mr. Bonnerjee's ability and experience. There is just now a vacancy in the Council by the expiry of the Maharajah of Vizanagram's time, and if Mr. Evans' invaluable services cannot be dispensed with by Government, the country would rejoice if Mr. Bonnerjee be appointed to fill up the vacancy. It is said that in view of the impending departure of the Council to the hills the vacancy will not be filled up for the present. This seems to be an inexplicable enigma.

MR. R. L. UPTON, Government Solicitor, will shortly go to England on leave, and his partner Mr. Eddis will act for him during his absence.

A MEETING of the rate-payers' Committee, under the presidency of Maharaja Sir Narendra Krishna Bahadur was held at the Rooms of the British Indian Association, on Saturday last. It was decided that a requisition should be sent to the Sheriff to call a public meeting at the Town Hall at an early date, to consider the provisions of the Municipal Act in relation to the assessment of residential houses, the realization of the rate bills, and various other matters. A Memorial, we understand, will be presented for adoption, at the proposed public meeting, praying for the amendment of the Act, which in the working of some of its provisions has developed to an alarming extent the evils which were apprehended at the time when it was passing through the Legislature. The rate-payers hope to be able to show that there is an urgent necessity for amending the Act.

WE deeply regret to announce the death of Raja Purna Chunder Sing of Paikparah. The deceased who was a comparatively young man suffered long from diabetes, and though he showed some signs of improvement latterly, and appeared in public now and then to discharge his varied duties, he grew worse and worse as the end drew nigh. A change to Bhagulpore not conducing to much benefit, he went to his ancestral home at Kandi, and placed himself under the treatment of skilful *kavirajas* who could not, alas, do him any good. He was only 38 years of age at the time of his death and had given promise of useful public career that was cut short by the fell disease. He was at one time a Vice-President of the British Indian Association. As a member of its Managing Committee he took part in most of the public movements of the day and liberally supported every scheme that was calculated for the good of the country and the community. He was an ardent friend of music and had published a brochure on it which is well-spoken of by those conversant with the subject. As the second son of Raja Pratap Chunder Sing, the deceased became the head of the Paikpara family on the death of his eldest brother Kumar Kanti Chunder, and his sterling merit was recognised by Government in 1883, when the title of Raja was conferred upon him. He was an unfailing friend of those in need, and his death is naturally mourned by those who came into contact with him. To Kumars Indra Chunder Singh and Sarat Chunder Singh and their sorrowing family we can only offer our sincere and heartfelt condolence.

KUMAR Pramode Kumar Tagore, the eldest son of Raja Sir Sourendro Mohun Tagore, has been taken off the bosom of his loving family with a suddenness that adds most considerably to the severity of the shock. A hale and hearty young man of no more than twenty-five years of age, his friends had hopefully looked forward to many years of usefulness and his unexpected removal has cast a deep gloom over the family whose first born and adored he was. He had inherited from his father a great taste for music, which young as he was, he cultivated with great success and greater promise, and his excellent character and amiable temperament had won for him the golden opinion of those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

A deputation consisting of Maharaja Sir Narendra Krishna Bahadur, Mahamahopadhyaya Mahesh Chunder Nyayaratna, Babus Nandlal Bose, Brahma Nath Sen, Bhupendra Nath Bose and Lal Behari Mitter, rate-payers of Ward No. 1, waited upon Sir Henry Harrison, the Chairman of the Corporation, yesterday by appointment. Maharaja Sir Narendra Krishna introduced the deputation, and opened the business of the meeting in a few words referring to the hardship which the owners of residential houses would be put to, if their cost be valued according to the price of materials now obtaining. Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose entered more fully into the matter. The Chairman said in reply that he would visit the locality in which the houses of the owners complaining of the high rate of new assessment are situated. He assured the deputation also that he would examine all the circumstances mentioned by Babu Bhupendra Nath before coming to a final decision. The gentlemen present were gratified by the courtesy shown to them by Sir Henry Harrison.

THE Full Bench hearing of the Dum Dum murder case under section 26 of the Royal Character which commenced on Tuesday last lasted

till Friday. The Chief Justice and Justices Prinsep, Norris, Pigot and Macpherson formed the bench and Mr. Woodroffe in an exhaustive speech laid O'Hara's case before their Lordships. The sum total of the learned Counsel's argument was that the prisoner was wrongly convicted on the uncorroborated testimony of accomplices. Mr. Phillips in his reply pointed out with great nicety and force that it was a question of fact to be considered by the Jury and not one of law—as to whether or not Gouldsborough and Macdormott were to be regarded as accomplices and whether their testimony which *was* materially corroborated could be relied upon or not. Their Lordships have taken time to consider this point, and their decision upon it is expected to be given to-day. After this, if necessary, their Lordships will go into evidence and themselves deal with the case. Mr. Phillips contends that the revisional Court has no jurisdiction to go into evidence, and we are persuaded that evidence will not be gone into without duly disposing of the learned Standing Counsel's contention. The execution of O'Hara has been postponed by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor for a week, and in order to expedite matters the hearing of the case was continued on Thursday which was a gazetted holiday on account of *Dolejatra*. Mr. Phillips' reply took up the whole of Thursday, and we do not know whether by any legal quibble those arguments can be put "out of Court" as adduced not in "term-time."

THE scholarship examination for girls of the schools affiliated to the Uttarpara Hitakari Sabha, in the Districts of Hooghly, Howrah, Burdwan, Bankurah, Birbhoom, Midnapore and a part of the 24-Pergunnahs, will commence on Thursday the 13th instant and continue as usual for three days.

WE are sincerely sorry to record the death of Babu Prasannakumar Lahiri of the Metropolitan Institution. The deceased was well read in the literature of England, and though his duties as a professor did not quite admit of the display of scholastic attainments of a very high order those who came into contract with him, knew his worth as a scholar. He was a thorough gentleman and was very popular with his students as well his subordinates and official superiors. His premature death will be a serious loss to the College staff of which he was an ornament, and we sincerely sympathise with Pandit Iswara Chandra Vidyasagara and the students of the Metropolitan Institution.

LADY SACURBAI DINSHA MANECKJEE PETIT died on Wednesday last at Bombay. She was a worthy consort of her generous-minded husband and her liberality to the poor and suffering which was confined to no particular locality was beyond all praise. It was only a short time ago that she was in our midst and the Calcutta charities had been greatly benefited by her gifts. The deepest sympathy is felt for the bereaved husband by all who knew her.

WE are glad to note that Mr. P. C. Laha made a successful balloon ascent on his own account on Saturday last. The Tivoli Gardens were chosen for the occasion and *eclat* was lent to it by some female acrobats displaying gymnastic feats in mid-air. The balloon rose to a height of more han 2000 feet. We congratulate Mr. Laha on his success and are glad that he has well earned public support and patronage.

AT the meeting of the Viceroy's Council held on Friday last, the Hon'ble Mr. Scoble presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Guardian and Ward. The Bill to provide for the Vesting and Administration of Property held in trust for charitable purposes was passed. A Bill to enable the Comptoir National D'Escompte de Paris to sue and be sued in the name of the Chief Manager, for the time being, of the Indian Agencies of the said Comptoir, was introduced. The Bill will be taken into consideration at the next meeting of the Council.

WE are glad to learn that Government proposes to put down indecent advertising in public prints at any cost, and all that we can hope is that such of our contemporaries as do not hesitate to lend themselves to such unworthy purposes will take the timely hint and render Government interference unnecessary as it is always unpleasant. We are pursuaded that once public opinion is pronounced against it the abominable practice will be given. We cannot have the morals of our youth thus recklessly tainted in the name of science and sanitation.

THE Bombay jute industry is steadily looking down, and even European jealousy may for a time be laid asleep. Things have gone from bad to worse and there is no means left of averting a wide-spread break-down but by general slackening of business. Mr. Nanabhai Byramji Jeejeebhoy has sent a letter to Messrs. Marshall and Co., calling upon the mill-owners of Bombay to join together, and make one combined effort to stop their mills for eight days a month, in order to steer clear of the great storm at present menacing them. The Bengal Mill-owners' Association saved its members from calamity by this wise step some time ago, and it is to be hoped that their example will be readily followed in Bombay, where the diversity of interests is greater owing to the industry being in the hands of Europeans and Parsees. That such a state of affairs does not call for a stringent factory-law ought to be very plain to our legislators.

IT seems to be pretty clear that influenza, or whatever name the faculty may choose to give the epidemic now raging in Bombay, is by no means confined to an isolated locality. The District Surgeon of North Arcot reports several cases of influenza in Vellore. It did not assume an epidemic form; climatic influences had probably modified it, but it had gradually attacked persons resident in and near the main road. The climatic uncertainty we lately have had makes a visitation to us more than probable, though we are not much comfortable without it. Small pox is raging fearfully in all parts of Calcutta and its suburbs, and cholera mortality is almost as high as ever. The Health Society and office are equally perplexed and a truce to theorization has for a while been declared.

WE invite the special attention of our readers and the millionaires of Bengal to the advertisement in another column, for the sale by public auction, to be held to-day and to continue the whole of the current week at the premises of Messrs. Hamilton and Company, of the rare collection of jewellery belonging to Her Highness the Dowager Maharani of Burdwan.

THE reputation which the Royal Bengal Theatre enjoys for the excellence of its mythological representations was fully sustained by the performance of the new drama "Sita-Svayamvara" which it gave, for the first time, on Saturday before last, before a full and respectable house. The time-honored traditions with which the principal characters of the play are associated, were scrupulously kept in view, while the introduction of extraneous but consistent incidents and the exhibition of some very beautiful sceneries added considerably to the attractions of the piece.

WE read in the *Englishman*:—'On Saturday a new Vernacular paper, bearing the name of "Shuprabhat" was launched into existence. It is chiefly indebted to the *Englishman* for its news. The paper ought to be a success.' So it ought, and so it will, when it will have the powerful support of the *Englishman* and all that supports it. We fail to see why the advent of a Bengali newspaper in the *Englishman* interest should evoke aspersions of a severe kind in some of our contemporaries, when there are plenty of Bengali papers equally if not more damaging to the other interest. It can do the country no harm to have both sides of all questions placed before the public, and it is hard that gentlemen connected with an expression of view on one side should be considered by gentlemen on the other side as traitors to their country. We for ourselves do not smell treason in the venture and wish it all success. We must point out, however, in the interest of the new journal, that the services of some good Bengali writers should be procured, as language of the missionary and advertisement type patent will be some what out of place in a journal of such pretensions.

LOCAL.

THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

To

P. C. LYON ESQUIRE,

Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial, Political, and Appointment Departments.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 21$\frac{A}{2}$ S. dated 4th December last, enclosing a draft Bill to amend the law relating to Partition, submitted to the Government of India by the Hon'ble Dr. Rash Behari Ghosh, and inviting an expression of opinion of the British Indian Association on the provisions of the Bill and the expediency of undertaking legislation on the lines contained therein. In reply, I am directed by the Managing Committee of the Association to make the following observations for the consideration of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

2. In the absence of the usual Statement of Objects and Reasons my Committee are unable to see what are the objects of the Bill and what are the evils which it is intended to remedy. If its object be the preservation of the family estate in such a manner that it may not be divided into minute fragments, the Committee submit that this object will not be attained, nay will be entirely frustrated, by the provisions as they are framed at present. Section VIII says that "nothing herein contained shall prevent the Court from making a decree for a partition of part of an estate and a sale of the remainder." This section empowers the Court to divide the estate in any manner it may think fit. A part may be partitioned among the co-parceners in minute divisions, and the remainder may be sold to outter strangers. Thus not only the estate may be split up into minute portions, but a discordant element, in the shape of a stranger, may be brought in to keep up continual strife among the different sharers. By the law of Partition, as it stands at present, there is no necessity for throwing a portion of the property into the hands of strangers. The proposed Bill gives every facility for sale before partition, and thus not only helps to break up the property, but virtually deprives the co-parceners of their rights in ancestral estates.

3. It would appear from the wording of the different Sections of the Bill that the framer intended to give greater facilities to co-parceners for partition than what exist at present. The Committee do not see how this object even can be secured without sacrificing the interests of some of the co-sharers. Section IV lays down that "if the party or parties interested, individually or collectively, to the extent of one moiety or upwards, request the Court to direct a sale of the property, the Court shall direct a sale." The effect of this section will be that a moiety-holder, who may happen to be the stronger of the two, may compel the other co-sharer to sell his share to him. In other words, the stronger party may deprive the weaker of his share by paying him a money-value for it. If instead of two, there are five co-sharers, three of whom request the Court to direct the sale of their ancestral house, the Cour

will be bound to order such sale. The other two co-sharers are unwilling to part with their property, and leave their ancestral home; but, under the proposed law, all sentimental considerations will be set aside, and if they are not rich enough to outbid the first three co-sharers, they will be forced to give up their property. When such sales are made, the properties are disposed of considerably under their proper prices, to the immense injury of the poor co-sharers. The provision embodied in this section will thus place a dangerous weapon in the hands of rich co-parceners. They may at any time deprive the other sharers of their rights.

4. The *proviso* to Section IV is calculated to do greater mischief than the section itself. The *proviso* says: "No sale shall be directed under this or the preceding section, if any other party interested shall undertake to buy the share of the party asking for sale, in which case, the Court may order a valuation of the share." This *proviso*, if my Committee have understood it rightly, will place the co sharers entirely at the mercy of the sharer asking for sale. The latter, in collusion with an 'interested party,' such as a lease-holder for instance, may request the Court to order 'a valuation' of the share. Such a valuation, which, under the circumstances, can never be adequate, must be accepted by the co-sharers, and the share sold to the 'interested' party for a price which does not represent its proper value. The consequence of such a proceeding will be that the value of the other shares will be considerably depreciated. The 'interested' party, wishing to buy the other shares, may always point to the 'valuation' made by the Court, and thus be enabled to take an undue advantage over the other co-sharers.

5. My Committee would beg leave to point out here that they are not quite sure as to whether they have correctly understood the meaning of the *proviso*. In the case supposed by the framer of the Bill, is it his intention that there should be 'no sale,' and that the share should be given to 'the party interested' at the valuation made by order of the Court? If there be a competition between the contending parties, should the share be put up to sale by public auction? A third party, a complete stranger, may be the highest bidder. It would then be simply substituting a stranger in the place of the former co-sharer, the estate being held in joint tenancy as before. My Committee are unable to comprehend the benefit of such a provision. Under it no partition is made, the estate remains as it was, only a stranger, who may belong to another faith, is allowed to step in to the injury of the interests of the other co-sharers.

6. My Committee freely admit that there are cases, contemplated by Section III., where a division of the property by metes and bounds is inexpedient and impracticable. A tank and a temple are cases in point. The present law relating to impartible property, however, meets all our social requirements, and does not seem to my Committee to require any material alteration. The remedy proposed is worse than the evil complained of.

7. In Mahomedan and Hindu communities, where religious differences and zenana seclusion are important factors in the social order of the people the necessity for keeping out strangers from dwelling houses has been keenly felt. The object of the law has always been to exclude all alien elements from the social circle. This has given rise to the law of Pre-emption (Hak Shafa) of the Mahomedans, and the Hindus have very largely borrowed it, and have been benefited by it. This law, and all its beneficial provisions, have to be set aside by the provisions of this Bill. In fact it lays the axe at the root of our social organisation. It obliges Mahomedans and Hindus, as well as Christians, either to live together without any *purdah*, or to forsake their family and ancestral homes with which sentiments of affection are so intimately connected. As long as the bulk of the Hindus and Mahomedans remain as they are, they cannot welcome any law which may force upon them the association of their females in the same dwelling house. The tendency of the proposed law, my Committee believe, is to break up all time-honored institutions, so interwoven with our social life. The people would rather put up with inconveniences they now labour under than receive others which are so repugnant to their feelings.

8. My Committee admit that the division of the property in small fragments is a source of great evil, but so long as the law relating to equal division remains unchanged, it cannot be avoided. A law of entail might afford some relief, but even in England this law is not held in great respect in the present day, and that it has evils of a grave character cannot be gainsaid. It would take my Committee too much out of their way to discuss the whole law of Partition, under the cover of a Bill for the sale of property under partition. My Committee, therefore, refrain from the discussion of the subject.

9. The Bill, following the English Partition Act of 1868, and favoring, without paying any regard to the difference of social conditions, the sale of the property and the distribution of the proceeds, is entirely unsuited to the circumstances of this country; and my Committee beg to point out that so long as religious differences prevail in the country, and the character of its social organisation remains unchanged, the law of Partition as formulated in the Bill, will simply prove ruinous to all classes of the community. My Committee, therefore, do not recognise the necessity of undertaking legislation on the lines indicated in the Draft Bill.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient servant,
RAJKUMAR SARVADHIKARI
Secretary, British Indian Association.
Calcutta, 7th March 1890.

Correspondence.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Madras, 3rd March 1890.

The announcement by the London Correspondent of the *Hindu* that the Hon. W. S. Caine M.P. has formed the laudable resolve of holding a public reception in honor of Mr. A. O. Hume, the General Secretary of the Indian National Congress, and the other Indian delegates at a cost of £150 (Rs. 2,000) and in an assembly of 2000 politicians of all parties, must be cheering even to the most pessimist of Indian patriots. The social and political significance of the intelligence is indeed great and I hope will be duly appreciated in all parts of Aryavarta. That is a reception which the most successful Indian Governor may well envy and which scarcely falls to the lot of even the average run of Indian pro-consols. Irrespectively of the direct influence which the Congress agitation may exercise or not on the course of Indian political reform, the indirect benefits that accrue from it are in themselves so varied and important as to fully justify the existence and furtherance of the National movement. It is a great pity that among the 30 millions of people inhabiting the Madras Presidency, a single Native gentleman could not be found to be a member of the deputation to England.

Madras has been so much belauded by other Presidencies that it is time that they get a real inkling of what Madras really is. I doubt whether in Bengal or Bombay or N. W. P. there are many who precisely understand our position and capabilities. Our greatest defect is that there is not in our leaders a single towering genius, or admirable public speaker as in Bombay or Bengal. It is the honest and candid opinion of the most thoughtful of Madrassees, that there is not on our side one Ranade, one Telang, one Lal Mohan Ghose or Badruddin Tyabjee or Pandit Ajodhya Nath. The economist, the orator, the Judge and social reformer, the vakil enthusiast, the commanding voice that by its dignity and fluency and position extorts admiration and obedience, all these are wanting. Is not this my contention strengthened by the noteworthy incident, that though five Congresses have assembled, not one was presided over by a Madrassee? Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao is the one distinguished statesman of continental reputation whom all parties in Madras would ungrudgingly select for the honor. But his health and peculiar temperament of mind have hitherto disabled him from accepting so distinguished an honor and there is no hope of his attaining it in the future. Incidentally I may add that the Rajah is dissipating his leisure hours in writing to all the local papers whatever comes uppermost in his mouth. If only all of you in Bengal were presented with a volume of his notes, you will verily stand aghast at some of them. Personally the Rajah is entitled to our everlasting respect and homage. The foundation of his fame as reflected in the gratitude of the three States which he administered rests on an adamantine basis. But in Europe statesmen of riper years are engaged in creating a revolution in politics contributing to the most thoughtful literature of the day and managing empires; but we see here an Indian gentleman of no ordinary ability and powers of observation or wealth too fond of luxury to stick to the truly oriental ideal of old age and too weak to direct and guide his fellow countrymen in any reform, be it social, political, industrial educational, or literary, or religious.

The efforts of the Rev. Mr. Johnstone of the Society for the diffusion of healthy literature has not met with a cordial response in one point. The reverend gentleman is desirous of getting the active countenance of the State in the grand work he is about to inaugurate. But the press here is decidedly against the State swerving from the path of strict neutrality. Trade in Books as in others must have free play and no impediment of any sort ought to be placed in the way of private traders. The *Mail* and the *Hindu* have strenuously advocated a non-interference policy.

By the bye, I have done an injustice to Native Madras by omitting to observe that the same mediocrity pervades the ranks of the Madras Civil Service. I will lay a wager if you can lay your finger on a Sir Raymond West, H. T. Scott, Sir William Wedderburn, H. J. Cotton, R. C. Dutt, and men of that stamp in the Madras Civil Service. Our civilians are a modest and hard working lot They can neither deliver speeches, nor write books, nor correspond with the London papers. I doubt whether during the last several years, you can find one Madras civilian competing with his compeers in other parts of India in any praiseworthy public movement. It will be conceded that our European fellow-subjects are in a peculiarly favored condition to lend a helping hand to us. They may not harrangue on politics. They may set us a good example as authors, they may tender us their valuable advice in the study of economic subjects, they may offer sympathetic counsel in the solution of social problems, they may undertake researches in historical subjects, in short as talented citizens of affluence, they may contribute in some way to the edification and enlightenment of their native fellow subjects; but the atmosphere of Madras does not appear to be congenial to the growth of such wholesome qualities.

The examination for the Statutory Civil Service is over. About 8 graduates were selected for the examination and the competition is keen. In previous years the Madras Government used to nominate an officer of the Uncovenanted Service. This is however a welcome departure. The contest is said to be confined to three distinguished students, one is a Native Christian, master of arts in English literature, a clerk in the Secretariat, an accomplished scholar in Latin, of whose abilities people speak in the highest term of praise; another is a rising genius in the person of the son of Mr. Raghunath Rao, Dewan Peshkar of Travancore. I saw a written praise of him, from a venerable hand in Madras, in which it was said that in the B. A. examination of this year, he secured the highest number of marks since the establishment of the University and in Mathematics cleared several of the papers and stood first. Eminent European professors regret that he should not go to England to compete in the Mathematical tripos. The third is the youthful son of the late Mr. Gopal Rao, the prince of Educationists in Southern India whose memory is held here in many circles with great respect. The young boy graduated as first in History and Political Economy, he is a methodical student,

whose early training all round seems to have been well taken care of.

Our Law examinations as they stand now are more or less a disgrace to us. The B. L. is uniformly unpopular and the doings of examiners are mysterious. They are themselves lawyers with an eye to suppress the increase in the number of lawyers and are under no control to any body. The Pleadership examination is entrusted to subordinate luminaries of the judicial service. Barring a few honorable exceptions, there are in it men who set papers to display their love of intricacy. The examiner in the Evidence Act specially seems to have forgotten that the same paper was to be answered by candidates for the second grade also.

The Madras Government seem to be very earnest in the matter of the East Coast Railway. The Board of Revenue have submitted an elaborate paper and the whole scheme has been forwarded for the consideration of the Viceroy's Government.

Lord Connemara encourages sports among students by annually awarding two silver cups for a cricket team between all the local colleges. During the last week a match was played and of the several colleges whose students competed Pachiappa's, the Presidency, the Christian, the Agricultural, the Civil Engineering, the Medical College won the prize as they did in the last two years.

The Madras High Court is greatly prejudiced against the Jury system and has passed severe comments on it. But their condemnation is unsupported by facts and figures and rests solely on stray cases. Only three of the District and Sessions Judges have pronounced themselves against the Jury system. The others are in its favor. The High Court desires to wrest from the Jurors the privilege of being the final arbiters of fact.

The Madras Congress Committee have a paid Agent to travel from place to place and collect subscriptions. The plan has proved very advantageous and other Committees may initiate a like agency.

The Fine Arts Exhibition opened on Friday last at the Senate House under the presidency of His Excellency the Governor.

Extracts

ANCIENT INSTRUCTIONS TO COUNSEL.

[*Illustrated London News.*]

LAW and lawyers fill an important place in English history. They are far more prominent than was the case even in ancient Greece or Rome; and every schoolboy knows how large share they had in public and domestic affairs in classical times. Some persons are to be met with who allege that this is the most lawyer-ridden country in the world. This may be true, or otherwise. But it is curious and instructive to observe how legal usages and methods remain substantially the same as they were in the Middle Ages. A spirit of litigation prevailed then, as now; perhaps neither more nor less. People are always apt to rush to the courts for a redress of wrongs, real or imaginary, and for the maintenance of rights supposed to be withheld or impaired. All this makes occupation for lawyers.

Not everyone has found time or opportunity to look into the "Speculum Juris," or "Mirror of Justice." Briefless barristers, and some pleaders who fail with judge and jury, might do worse than take a survey. It is a work written by one Guillaume Durand, who flourished about six centuries ago, and is supposed to have died in 1296. At any rate, he lived and wrote after the settlement of that system of judicature, in the time of Henry II. and Edward I., which has virtually remained to the present time. The book was very popular, and was deemed of great authority. It was extensively transcribed, at a time when the art of printing was unknown, and it was issued from the press, in a commanding folio form, several times during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. It became a sort of *vade mecum* with budding and aspiring lawyers for generations after the writer had passed away. This oracle gives advice as to appearance, behaviour, and modes of speech, such as were calculated to ensure success in the lawcourts. When he wrote, clergymen were also lawyers, as they were statesmen and administrators. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that Durand became Bishop of Mende. He was a native of Provence; but French ecclesiastics were then very numerous in England—not always to have been successful as an advocate while here, and he frankly explains how he succeeded, for the benefit of others. He cautioned them not to indulge in personalities towards the counsel on the other side, from which it is to be inferred that references to "my learned friend" were not always of the most respectful character. Instead of this being done, it is well to treat him decorously, "unless indeed he treat you rudely." When replying to his arguments you should commend him slightly but not too much; and commend him "by equivocal words." Examples are given showing that the writer was a master of dialectics and verbal refinements, not to say quirks and quibbles. Mr. Sergeant Buzfuz is a character of remote antiquity.

Great provocation was sometimes experienced at the Bar. Counsel were touchy or imperious, especially to juniors. "You must not treat your adversary with contempt; or call him, in plain words, a ruffian or a prevaricator; or insinuate as much by saying, 'I am not a thief,' thereby intimating that he is." If matters went to an extremity, and if in a moment of irritation he brought a charge of falsehood, then "you may safely say:—You are a liar'; but protest that you say so not with intent to injure him, but only to defend your own cause." There were other modes of irritation pursued by rival advocates: "If he has made a noise or a tittering you may do the like." The wisdom of the serpent was occasionally demanded: "If your adversary seem to get the better in argument, or if your cause be weak, go off warily to another point." But what is to be thought of this? "If he be of a bilious temperament, you should indirectly and very smoothly say something to make him angry, for then he will not be able to shape his speech well." Judges are but men, and therefore are liable to human infirmities. It is to be feared that their tempers were not always perfect six hundred years ago. Doubtless they had much to try them, in stupid or prevaricating witnesses, and even in the bearing of counsel. Durand devotes much space to suggestions and warnings as to behaviour in court. On entering, the first thing to be done was to remove the cap and make an obeisance. This was to be graduated according to the rank of the Judge "His Honour" in a country court is not entitled, presumably, to so much deference as "My Lord" in one of the Supreme Courts. There were no stipendiaries or registrars in those days. Otherwise, it might be a curious inquiry as to how much of "obeisance" they should receive. But it is evident that Judges were sometimes angry, with or without cause. If so, "do not rejoin." They might even be sarcastic. Still, it was better not to retaliate. Loquacity was to be guarded against, for the Bench did not like it. Care must be taken "not to laugh causelessly before the Judge," lest he might imagine that it was at him. "When he speaks, listen respectfully, and then laud his wisdom and eloquence."

Durand enumerates sundry judicial qualities which counsel might praise and magnify; "but be careful about attributing all to one person." In other words, keep a reserve stock of complimentary phrases, suitable for other Judges. Be careful not to say anything to offend, "for it is a hazardous thing to have a suit before an offended Judge." It might even be well to convey a hint that he knows everything, while knowledge is infinitesimal. Manner also is all important. It is well to rise gracefully, nor arrogantly, and to put on an affable and pleasant look, even if the feelings be the reverse. "Do not move your head or feet awkwardly. One would almost imagine that some modern counsel must have been present, at any rate by a sort of anticipatory metempsychosis when we read that certain advocates "rub the face, push their hair behind the ears, blow the nose loudly, clear the throat, examine their hands and their dress, alternately lift their eyes to heaven and bow their head, wrinkle the forehead, compress the lips, frown, and fix their hands on their hips." These old counsel had a trick, it appears, of keeping the advocate on the other side waiting so long in court as to wear out his patience. Or they would cunningly pretend to be asleep during his arguments. Durand disapproves of this. He also advises that the opposing counsel be not left behind, lest he should earwig the Judge. The advocate of old standing was to beware of the younger ones. They had the law fresh, and kept themselves informed on recent decisions. By diligence and a desire for barren honour, they sometimes won a victory over their seniors, who became idle and careless. "The junior is to speak first. The senior is to follow, in order that his specious and experienced arguments may be better remembered by the Judge. But both should agree on the course that their speeches take; and, if one of them is making a mess of it, the client should stop him, for 'an ox and an ass should not plough together." Finally, the advice is given not to take a low fee for pleading, lest reputation be lost. "Undertake those causes only which you can conscientiously advocate. If a cause be desperate, give it up." It will be seen that most of the types of legal character delineated by Durand are still existing. Much of his advice seems to be practised, and the remainder is not undeserving of careful reflection.

"THE FUTURE OF RUSSIA IN ASIA."

[*Nineteenth Century,*]

Recent travellers, led astray by the ignorance of the language of the country and an insufficient acquaintance with the religion, history and manners of the Central Asiatics, often publish highly sanguine accounts of the changes that have taken place and the great progress made in Western civilization on the part of the native population. They have undoubtedly been guilty of gross exaggeration. As yet the foreign conqueror has exercised but little influence by his good or his bad example, by his virtues or his vices. It is true, that the strict order, security, peace, and toleration, that have followed the anarchy and tyranny of the native rulers, commend themselves to the peccable citizen, and would indisputably produce even greater effect were it not that the falsehood, corruptibility and other vices of the new Russian officials often remind him of the like faults on the part of the old native officials. The schools which the Russians have founded in Tashkend, Khodjend, Farghana and Samarkand with a view to educate the natives have hitherto produced very slight results. The chief end had in view was not so much the enlightenment of the population as the diffusion of a knowledge of the Russian language and the training of useful officials. But of the pupils who have received their education at these institutions, none have distinguished themselves, none have acquired as much Western knowledge as has been acquired by the students at similar institutions founded by the English in India at the beginning of the present century. Yet the educational system of the English was at that time very far behind what is at present. Out of the seminary at Tashkend there have come a few teachers planted among the Karghizes, a few useful officials, and one writer on Philology named Ish Mohommed Bukin, author of a Russian Khirgiz dictionary. The rest of the Central Asiatics who have received a Russian education have been educated in Russia itself. When we consider the gigantic dimensions of the struggle which our culture has to engage in with the teaching of Islam, a struggle out of which even the English in India are only now emerging victorious after forty years of conflict, it would be unfair to the Russian Government if we were to apply too strict a measure of criticism to its well-intentioned efforts. A continuation and perfection of the present system of education will certainly lead in the future to the solid and beneficial results. Nevertheless Russia will never exceed in reaching the same degree of success or in exhibiting the same fruits as the English can with justificable pride point to with their three and a half millions of pupils who are yearly educated in thousands of normal schools, in numerous colleges, and four universities. In the first place, the Russian civiliser cannot spread abroad in the darkness of their regions which he has conquerred any better or more beneficial light than that which he has at his own disposal. To think of competing successfully with the greatest and most advanced representatives of Western culture in Southern Asia would be a Utopian idea. Secondly, in Central Asia are wanting those conditions which exist in India, where fifty millions of Mahomedans are urged to overcome their old prejudices by the competition of 200,000,000 of Hindus, Sicks and Jains. In the Khanates, on the contrary, Mahomedan religious unity is represented. In their past history they had never come into contact with people of another faith. In no other part of the Mahomedan world is the deeply rooted Moslem view of life fostered by so large a number of elementary and high schools as here. Only a vast system of confiscation of the educational foundations could produce an important effect in the direction desired by Russia. This, however, from motives of a sound policy will not be resorted to. Certainly, Russia might contrive to make use, for her own purposes, of the existing system of schools by compelling the Mahomedan schools to take up some one or more modern subjects. This, however, does not for a moment occur to the Russian civiliser. He will never compete in this particular with the free Albion, who spends vast sums annually in educating, on a compulsory system, the natives of India to write fiery newspaper articles against the English Government, to pose as damagogic agitators, and create difficulties for their educators with their precocious longings after self-Government and Parliaments.

Even the moderate triumphs of civilisation to which the Russians will only be justified in books will not be carried out without long toil. The writer, who is no other than Professor Vambery, says:—

"For this several decenniums of peaceful and laborious industry are required. Indeed the future of

the Trans-Caspian province depends largely on the measures which England will adopt for the security of her commercial interests and a safe communication by land between Europe and India. No serious and patriotic English statesman should for a moment think of allowing a connection between the Trans-Caspian line and the Indus Railway now continued to Candahar. Such a connection would only serve the interests of Russia, and bring England injury and danger. The only line that can serve England's economical and political interest is one which, starting from Quetta and passing through Seistan, Persia, Mesopotemia, and Asia Minor, joins on to the Turkish railways. For if England and Russia, as would seem to be the case, are to divide Asia into a southern and a northern district, in which each of them is to be supreme, there must be a corresponding division of the territory in economical matters also. Nothing less than two Asiatic railways will keep the peace between the two great European powers that aspire to rule in Asia. England will secure the commerce of southern Asia along the southern line, and Russia that of Northern Asia along the Northern, whereas a connection between the two must lead to an uninterrupted succession of misunderstanding. Only in the case of England still continuing to ignore her vital interests in this matter and still delaying the making of the Seistan line, will the Trans-Caspian line gain enormouly in importance and become the principal line of communication between Europe and Asia. Otherwise it will not.

Summing up what we have already observed, it will be seen that Russia has in the last few years been able to draw considerable advantages from her possessions in Central Asia, without being able to give the inhabitants, by way of compensation, the first germs of a future civilisation. Indeed, such an aim has never been presented to the minds of the Russian conquerors. To create such a state of thing as we see in India, where millions of Asiatics are brought up in such a degree of enlightenment and freedom as is unknown in Russia itself is not only beside the intentions of the Russians, but absolutely beyond their power. Twenty-five years ago the admirers of Russia's mission of civilisation in Asia—they are by this time woefully diminished in numbers—raised loud shouts of joy at the success of the Czar's troops on the Xaxartes and the Zerefshen, and hailed the daybreak of a new era of culture for Central Asia. The results that have been hitherto attained have not been such as to encourage these enthusiastic friends of Russia. Superficial tourists, especially Frenchmen, will amuse themselves with the ungrateful task of painting in the most gorgeous colours the salutary influences of Russian rule. But all the world knows that all this is designed to beautify the abortive misalliance of republican France and autocratic Russia. In order to have a clear idea of Russia's mission in Central Asia, we must call up before our eyes what is so often to be seen in the life of the poorer classes, where the eight or ten-year old girl, herself weak and imperfectly developed, has to act as a nurse to a still younger brother or sister. This arrangement is just as injurious to the premature nurse, whose proper growth is interfered with, as it is full of danger to the younger child. And indeed Russia whose own culture does not rest on too firm a foundation, should hesitate to burden herself with any more Asiatic charges. The are already enough of such who are still waiting to be civilised—in other words, to be Russiaised. Why, then, should she increase her own troubles and at the same time disturb others in their peceable development?

THE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF MR. BRADLAUGH.

[*Phrenological Magazine.*]

It is a work of some difficulty to summarise the chequered career of Mr. Bradlaugh. He himself has attempted it with indifferent success in a brief "Autobiography" clear enough so far as the narrative of events is concerned, but lacking somewhat in human interest. He was born at Hoxton in 1833. His father was a struggling, indefatigable Solicitor's Clerk, who could but ill afford to give his son Charles the scanty education which he actually received. At seven years of age he attended a National School in Abbey Street Bethnal Green. Subsequently he was sent to a small private school in the same quarter and in his eleventh year he completed his meagre educational curriculum at a boys' school in Hackney Road, having acquired little beyond a knowledge of the three Rs. He is, consequently, for the most part a self-taught man, but he has taught himself to some purpose.

Mr. Bradlaugh was first employed as an errand boy to the firm which his father served. In his fourteenth year he was equal to the more important duty of acting as wharf clerk and cashier to a firm of coal merchants in Britannia Fields, City Road. While so engaged, the serious troubles of his life began. In his sixteenth year he was a model young christian, an enthusiastic Sunday-school teacher, altogether a promising neophyte of the Church. The Bishop of London was announced to hold a confirmation in Bethnal Green, and the incumbent of St. Peter's, Hackney Road, in an evil hour requested his youthful Sunday school teacher to be prepared with suitable answers to any questions that might be put by the Bishop affecting the Thirty-nine Articles and cognate matters. Like an obedient son of the Church young Bradlaugh complied, and began to compare the Articles with the Gospels, but finding, as well he might, that they differed, he wrote a respectful note to his clegryman asking to be piloted through one or two of the difficulties. The ill-advised incumbent replied by informing the lad's parents that their son had turned Atheist, and that he had been suspended from his functions as a Sunday school teacher for a period of three months. Young Bradlaugh refused to attend Church during the interval of his suspension as a teacher, and soon began to spend his Sundays elsewhere and otherwise. The time—1849—was one of great religious and political ferment, and Bonner's Fields, near where the Consumption Hospital now stands, was the habitual resort of disputants of all kinds. Thither Bradlaugh repaired to mingle with youthful ardour in the fray—at first on the orthodox Christian side, then as Deist, and ultimately as a full fledged Atheist, or *nepluls ultra* in fidel. How great a spark the rash, intolerant incumbent of St. Peter's had kindled! Mr. Bradlaugh's next step on the downward path was to become a teetotaller, and this brought matters to a crisis. At the instance of the reverend gentleman, Mr. Bradlaugh's employers gave him three days to change his opinions or lose his situation. Rather than to succumb, the poor boy elected to go out from his father's house a social outcast and threw himself on the stony-hearted world. He was reduced to such straits that he was compelled to enlist in the 7th Dragoon Guards, and with this regiment he served for three years in Ireland, and there he did not neglect his opportunities. He studied the grievances of the Irish people on the spot, and hence his never-failing sympathy with that much enduring race. By his hand was drawn up the famous manifesto of the Irish Republic which ushered in the Fenian agitation. In 1853, through the death of an aunt, he inherited a small sum of money out of which he purchased his discharge and returned to London quitting the regiment with a very good character certificate from his Colonel who all along treated him with marked consideration. He was soon lucky enough to find employment in the Chambers of Solicitors. Mr. Bradlaugh acquired a knowledge of legal principle and procedure of which the most eminent counsel at the English Bar might well be proud. He again began to lecture in various metropolitan Freethought institutions more particularly the Hall of Science, City Road.

In 1855 Mr. Bradlaugh had his first encounter with the police authorities in regard to the right of public meeting in Hyde Park. He carried his point and was publicly thanked by the Royal Commissions of Inquiry for the value of the evidence given by him on the occasion. In 1858 Mr. Edward Truelove the wellknown and personally estimable Freethought publisher, was arrested for issuing the pamphlet.—Is Tyrannicide Justifiable? while Simon Bernard was at the same time incarcerated at the instance of the French Government for alleged complicity in the Orsini conspiracy. In the defence of both Mr. Bradlaugh rendered material assistance. In October, 1860, says Mr. Bradlaugh in his Autobiography, I paid my first visit to Wigan and certainly lectured there under considerable difficulty, the resident clergy actully inciting the populace to physical violence and part destruction of the building I lectured in. I however supported by a courageous woman and her husband persevered, and despite bricks and kicks, visited Wigan again and again, until I had *bon gre mal gre* improved the manners and customs of the people so that I am now a welcome speaker there.'

In 1861 Mr. Bradlaugh was arrested at the instance of the Young men's Christian Association of Plymouth-but he succeeded thanks to his forensic skill, in wringing from an unwilling bench of Magistrates a promptcertificate of dismissal. To the Reform League in 1867 Mr. Bradlaugh at his own charge rendered most valuable services—services which when his connection with the association ceased, were handsomely acknowledged in writing by the President Mr Beales and the Secretary, Mr. George Howell. To his marvellous courage and perseverance is it likewise owing that the last letter has been struck off the Press of England. Up to 1869, every newspaper was required by law to give securities to the extent of £800 against the appearance of blasphemous or seditious libels. Mr. Bradlaugh, refusing compliance printed his journal "in defiance of her Majesty's Government, and so repeatedly baffled the law Officers of the Crown in their prosecution that the statute had finally to be repealed, the late Mr. J. S. Mill writing thus to the defendant in connection with the event: "You have gained a very honorable success in obtaining a repeal of the mischievous Act by your persevering resistance."

Towards the end of 1873, Mr. Bradlaugh visited the United States of America, and commenced an extensive lecturing tour, dealing with such subjects as English Republicanism, the Irish Land Question, &c. He lectured in all the chief towns of New England and the middle States and met generally with a most cordial reception. At Boston, "the hub of the universe silver-tongued Demosthenes of America, Wendell Phillips presided at Mr Bradlaugh's lecture, with Senator-Sumner and LloydGarrison on the platform beside him Mr. Sumner described the great bugbear of English public life as the Samuel Adams of 1873" the Samuel Adems of 1766 being "that austere patriot always faithful and true," who spoke the first words of defiant protest against the tyranny of English monarchical rule in New England. The shameless Tichborne imposture he smote with the hammer of Thor, and throughout the late Ji go episode in the histroy of the nation he was faithful even to the shedding of blood. At the second of the memorable Jingo demonstrations in Hyde Park, he would in probabiltiy have been killed but for his enormous bodily strength and personal interpidity. As it was, his left arm with which he protected his head from the savage blows of his assailants, fell powerless by his side before he could cleave his way with a heavy truncheon to a place of safety. Erysipelas supervened, and for three weeks his life was in peril. It is but fair to add that five of his foemen found their way to St. George Hospital.

In his own way and by his own example, he has inspired many thousands of the most abject of his country men with reinvigorated feelings of self-reliance and renewed hope on earth. He has taught them the inestimable lesson of self-help of righteous indignation against oppression. On the other hand, like nearly all distinguished Atheists he is a consummate egotist. He who recognises in nature no power greater than himself almost necessarily rises rapidly in self esteem. There is very little room left for the Christian virtues of patience, humility, charity. Indeed, these are pretty much what Mr. Bradlaugh attributes to Christ as faults of character. There is no God, and Charles Bradlaugh is his prophet. This is the secret of his power. Not that it is meant to affirm in the least that Bradlaugh's egoism is incompatible with the common weal. In a different way from Beesly or Seurgeon he has arrived at certainty. That is all He might say, like Faust—

> No scruples or doubts in my bosom dwell,
> Nor idle fears of devils in hell.

Mr Bradlaugh's more recent exploits—his election for Nothampton his ejection from Parliament, his triumphant re-election, and his present position with only one foot in the House—are matters still fresh in everybody's mind.

MR. ROBERT HOTZ of Simla photographer by appointment to His Excellency the most Honorable the Marquess of Lansdowne Viceroy and Governor General of India, 13-5 35 Government Place, East, Calcutta.

Special arrangements made for Zenana ladies.

Inspection of Specimen invited. 238

A CARD.—AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a Missionary in old Mexico; it saved him from a miserable existence and an early grave. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W. C., will send the prescription, free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper. 10.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD-LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—DI. Sinclair Coghill, Physician to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Deseases of the Chest, Ventnor, writes:—"For many years I have in private practice, exclusively prescribed the Cod-Liver Oil of Dr. de Jongh, for a large and intimate experience of its superiority as a remedial agent in appropriate cases to other Cod Liver Oils ignorantly lauded on account of their comparative tastelessness and lightness of color. More recently I have had, in the Royal National Hospital for Consumption here, an opportunity of instituting a more extensive and systematic comparison, and I have convinced myself that in Tubercular and the various forms of Strumous Diseases, Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil possesses greater therapeutic efficacy than any other Cod Liver Oil with which I am acquainted. It was specially noted in a large number of cases in which the patients protested they had never been able to retain or digest other Cod Liver Oil that Dr. de Jongh's Oil was not only tolerated, but taken readily and with marked benefit. Dr. de Jongh's Oil is now the only Cod Liver Oil used in the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and deseases of the Chest." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford, and Co, 210, High Holborn London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

BOOKS.

1. Report of the Sone Canals Committee Vol. I.
2. Report of the Sone Canals Committee Vol. II.
3. Resolution by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on the Sone Canals Report.
4. Finance and Revenue Account from 1st April 1880 to 31st March 1888, Part I.
5. Finance and Revenue Account from 1st April 1880 to 31st March 1888 Part II.
6. Ditto. Ditto. Part III.
7. Trade and Navigation Report of British India, for the year ending 31st March 1889. Vol I.
8. Trade and Navigation [Coasting Trade] Vol. II.
9. Accounts relating to the Trade by Land of British India for April to August 1889.
10. Trade and Navigation Accounts for April to November 1889.
11. Land Trade Accounts for April to October 1889.
12. Trade and Navigation Accounts for April to October 1889
13. Trade and Navigation Accounts for April to December 1889.
14. Land Trade Accounts for April to September 1889.
15. Railway Administration Report for 1888 and 1889.

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AN INDIAN REFORM JOURNAL

THE ENGLISH COMMITTEE of the INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS have determined to establish a journal, the objects of which are that should it serve as a record of the Proceedings of the Congress and subsidiary effort following therefrom, and as an organ for the dissimination in the United Kingdom and in India of information about Indian Reform movements. It was recognised that so far as Great Britain is concerned, the important movement in Committee's charge has no medium for the expression of the views of the Congress or for the circulation of information. The Committee have to depend upon the casual support of general organs of public opinion, conductors of which deal with the Indian question purely on its merits as compared with questions nearer home, and are influenced by the consideration as to whether or not the buyers of their papers are interested in its discussion in their columns. This is natural, and what, in the way of business, must be expected. A far more important duty, that of enlightening and instructing the British public on India and the needs of its people, is imposed upon the Committee and no other means that can be devised promise one title of the advantages accruing from the publication of a journal. Among the great Causes now before the inhabitants of the United Kingdom Indian Refrom stands solitary in being without the means of making itself heard.

It has been decided that the paper shall be called *India*, and while it will be a jonrnal for the discussion of Indian affairs, no matters will be advocated save those on which the Congress, in Resolutions passed at its various sessions, has expressed its views.

Ordinarily the paper will be published monthly, but, during the Parliamentary session when occasion calls for this, the issues will appear fortnightly.

Each number will contain:

1. One or more leading articles dealing with the most important phase of the Indian Refrom question then before the public;
2. Two or more columns of Notes dealing with special points and indicating and correcting misapprehensions in newspapers or speeches respecting the Congress movement,
3. During the Parliamentary Session verbatim reports of all Questions, Motions, and Debates in Parliament relating to Indian affairs, special arrangements having been made with Messrs. Hausard and Co., Limited;
4. Summaries (or, in special cases, the text) of Parliamentary or Indian Government Blue Books and Papers having a bearing on Indian progress and refrom;
5. Chronicle of Refrom efforts in India of all kinds;
6. Record of meetings held in England in behalf of Reform, with special speeches *verbatim* on occation; and
7. One or two pages devoted to brief extracts from Indian papers, indicating trend of opinion, etc.

The price of the paper, deliverd in India by Agents or through the post, will be:—

Single copies, 4as each; Yearly subscription, Rs. 3.

Yearly subscribers who pay in advance will after, the first two numbers have been delivered by Indian agents, receive their copies through the post direct from London, and will thereby get them at least a fortnight or eighteen days earlier than they could be supplied through local agents.

It will be the aim of the conductors of *India* to make it a most acceptable journal to Indian Reformers as well as useful to British friends. Among other things it may be pointed out that its subscribers will receives in the way of Parliamentary reports of all Indian matters, for Rs. 3 per annum what now costs Rs. 15. Further, as means of binding together Congress-men in different parts of the Empire and as keeping them informed of the manner in which the agitation is being carried on in England, *India* should become a necessity to every supporter of the Congress.

Correspondence for *India* is invited. The most cordial assistance of our friends in India in securing subscribers and in communicating with the Editor on any matters of interest and importance is desired. No effort will be spared to make *India* of especial use in securing the ends aimed at in the Congress programme.

An order form, duly filled up and accompained by a remittance for one year's subscription, should be sent, without delay, to the Secretary of the Standing Congress Committee in your district, who will act, in the first instance at least, as the medium between the conductors of the journal and subscribers in India.

All communications intended for insertion in the paper should be addressed to

THE EDITOR,

INDIA,

25, *Craven Street, Charing Cross, London*;

and all communications respecting advertisements subscriptions, etc., to The Publisher, at the same address.

It rests with friends of the Congress in India, by subscribing for *India* and by getting their friends to subscribe, to put the journal on such a footing as shall make it, not once a month only but much more frequently, a necessity in every household in the Empire the members of which are interested in Indian progress and reform.

By order of the English Committee of the Indian National Congress.

WM. DIGBY,
Secretary.

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A manager having experience and well up to accounts, is desireus of taking charge of a Zemindari or other concern, especially where there is order to be restored. Unexceptional reference. For further particulars apply to S. care of the Manager.

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CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

The 12th Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the Commissioners of Calcutta, will be held in the Town Hall, on Thursday next, the 13th *March* 1890, *at* 4 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 8th, 15th and 22nd February 1890.
2. To confirm the proceedings of the Suburban Improvement Committee at Meetings held on the 7th and 21st February 1890.
3. To confirm the proceedings of the Central Road Committee at a Meeting held on the 11th February 1890.
4. To confirm the proceedings of Complaint Committee at a Meeting held on the 12th February 1890.
5. To consider the proposed Bye-laws passed under Section 412 Act II (B. C.) of 1888 Clauses (*e*) and (*f*).
6. Vital statistics for the month of January 1890.

JOHN COWIE,
Secretary to the Corporation.

7th March 1890.

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SUMMER FORM.

KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.

KILLS { BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES, MOSQUITOES.

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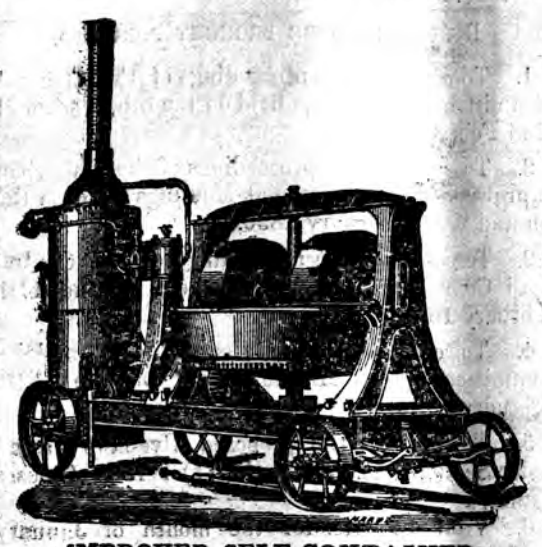

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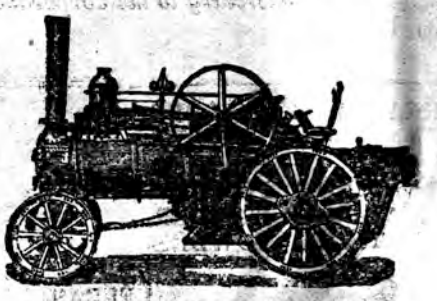

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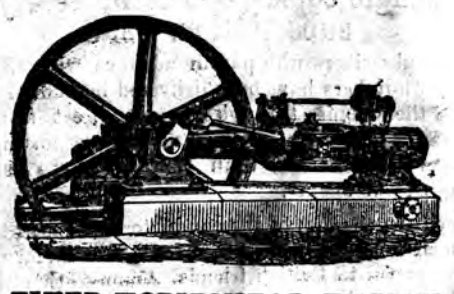

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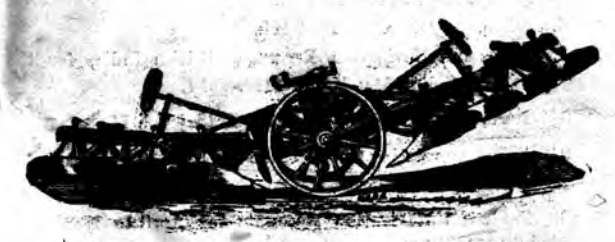

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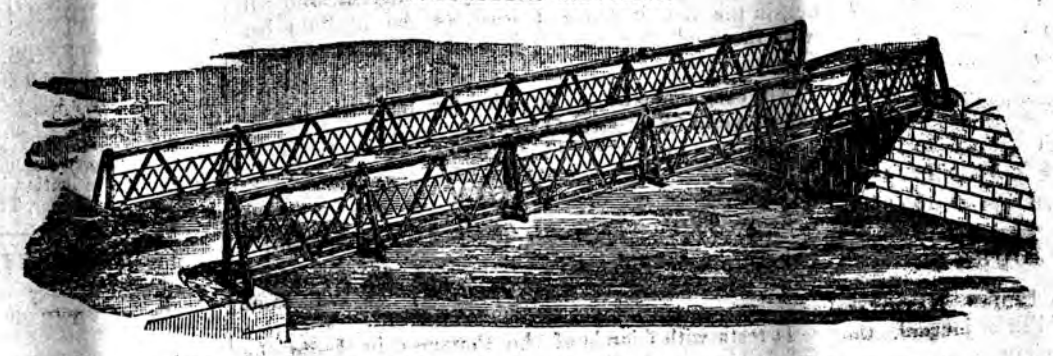

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Government Notification.

Calcutta Gazette.—*March* 5, 1889.

GENERAL,—Mr A W Mackie, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Moorshedabad, is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge of Rungpore.

Mr R H Anderson, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moorshedabad, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of that district, until relieved by Mr W H Page.

Mr C E Buckland, Officiating Secretary, Board of Revenue, on leave, is appointed to act temporarily as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

Mr J Boxwell, Officiating Commissioner, Patna Division, is allowed furlough for ten months, under article 340 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st April 1890.

Mr H H Risley, Deputy Commissioner, has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough up to the 20th November 1890.

Mr Nunda Krishna Bose, Temporary Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr T J C Grant, or until further orders.

Mr H Holmwood, Temporary Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Inspector-General of Registration, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr W D Blyth, or until further orders.

Mr J T Babonau, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhagulpore, is allowed leave for ten days, under article 372 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 3rd December 1889.

Mr E Geake, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Raneegunge, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that district.

Mr Umesh Chunder Batabyal, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to Howrah.

Mr R Carstairs, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Santhal Pergunnahs, is allowed furlough for nine months, under article 340 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 10th March 1890, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of his leave.

Mr W H M Gun, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Noakholly, is allowed furlough for eight months, under article 340 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 17th proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr G W Place, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Noakholly, during the absence, on furlough of Mr W F Meres, or until further orders.

Baboo Rojonee Coomar Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pubna, is transferred to the Sudder station of the district of Tipperah.

Mr Taheiruddin Ahmed, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Pubna.

Mr K G Gupta, Officiating Junior Secretary, Board of Revenue, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 14th instant.

Mr A E Staley, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, during the absence, on leave, of Mr K G Gupta, or until further orders.

Baboo Poorno Chunder Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Arrareah, Purneah, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 8th instant.

Mr E V Westmacott, Commissioner of Excise, Bengal, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 11th instant.

Mr A Forbes, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Commissioner of Excise, Bengal, during the absence, on leave, of Mr E V Westmacott, or until further orders.

Mr C W Bolton, Officiating Secretary, Board of Revenue, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs.

Mr C C Quinn, Magistrate and Collector, Patna, on furlough, is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr J Beames, or until further orders.

POLICE,—Mr R N W Pritchard, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mozufferpore, was on leave for twenty-six days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, from the 15th December 1889 to the 9th January 1890, both days inclusive.

Mr R N W Pritchard, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mozufferpore, is allowed leave for nine months, under article 369 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Rash Behari Biswas, Inspector of Police, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the district police of Khoolna.

Mr H W J Bamber, District Superintendent of Police, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed special leave for six months, under article 348 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st proximo.

The services of Mr. I H W D Clarke, District Superintendent of Police, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

EDUCATION,—Mr J T Bartlett, Teacher of Drawing, Engineering College, Sheebpore, is allowed furlough for one year, under article 371 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st April 1890, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr J S Slater, Professor, Civil Engineering College, Sheebpore, reported his departure from India on furlough on the 20th instant.

In supersession of the order of the 28th January last, Baboo Probhat Chandra Sen, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Noakholly, is appointed to act as Assistant Inspector of Schools, Chittagong Division, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Kailash Chandra Sen, or until further orders.

The following notifications are republished from the Assam Gazette:—

The following is published for information:

The undermentioned officer has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India permission to return to duty, as advised in list dated 24th January 1890:

H L Johnson . . . Covenanted . . Judge and Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts.

Mr A Shuttleworth, Assistant Superintendent of Police, whose services were placed at the disposal of the Chief Commissioner in Home Department Notification No. 128, dated the 10th February 1890, is posted to Silchar, and appointed to have charge of the Civil Police of the Cachar district.

Under the provisions of section 12 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Act X of 1882), the Chief Commissioner invests Mr F C Henniker, C S, Assistant Commissioner, with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Mr H LeMesurier, C S, made over the executive charge of the Cachar Treasury to Mr W G Black, Extra Assistant Commissioner, in the forenoon of the 8th February 1890.

JUDICIAL,—The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Baboo Uma Kanto Bhya of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Independent Bench at Beauleah, in the district of Rajshahye.

Baboo Jogendra Chandra Maulik, Munsif of Netrokona, in the district of Mymensingh, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the Netrokona Munsifi, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Akhoy Coomar Sen, or until further orders.

Baboo Shoshi Bhushan Rai and Moulvie Moojiruddin Ahmed are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Bench at Nowgong, in the district of Rajshahye, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Baboo Abinash Chunder Mitter is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Independent Bench at Khoolna, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Baboo Soresh Chunder Roy is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Bench at Jehanabad, in the district of Hooghly, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Baboo Grish Chundra Ghosal is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Nyehatty Regular Bench, in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Baboos Kiron Chandra Roy and Uma Churn Bose are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Bench at Narail, in the Jessore district, and are vested with the powers fo a Magistrate of the third class.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Benches mentioned in the district of Mymensingh, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—

For the Independent Bench at the Sudder Station.

Baboo Purna Chunder Purkait.

For the Independent Bench at Kishoregunge.

Baboo Annada Prosad Ghose.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Bench at Rughoonathpore, in the district of Manbhoom, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—

Baboo Raj Kumar Tara Lal Singh Deo. Baboo Ram Sundar Banerjee. Baboo Kali Kumar Rai Chowdhry. Baboo Kali Prosad Banerjee. Baboo Gobinda Das Bhagal. Baboo Rakhal Das Mozumdar.

Mr Taheiruddin Ahmed, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Pubna, is vested the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

GRANT of leave to Munsif.—Baboo Manmatha Nath Chatterjee, Munsif of Katwa, in the district of Burdwan, is allowed leave for thirty days, under article 306 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

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L. P. D. BROUGHTON,
Administrator-General of Bengal.

1 Council House Street,
CALCUTTA, 27th MARCH, 1889. 84

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RAJKUMAR SARVADHIKARI,
S. E. J. CLARKE,
Jt. Hon. Secretaries.

Calcutta, 9th Jan. 1890. 243

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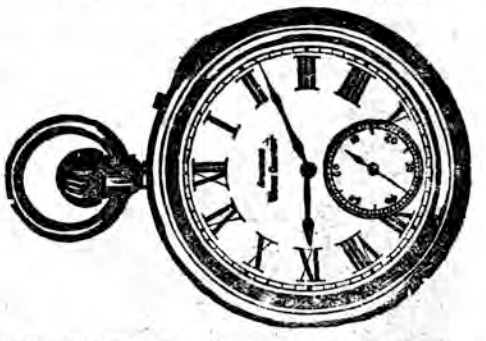

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Medical: New York Medical Journal, British Medical Journal, Lancet.

Scientific: Scientific American, Scientific American Supplement, English Mechanic and World of Science, Engineer, Engineering.

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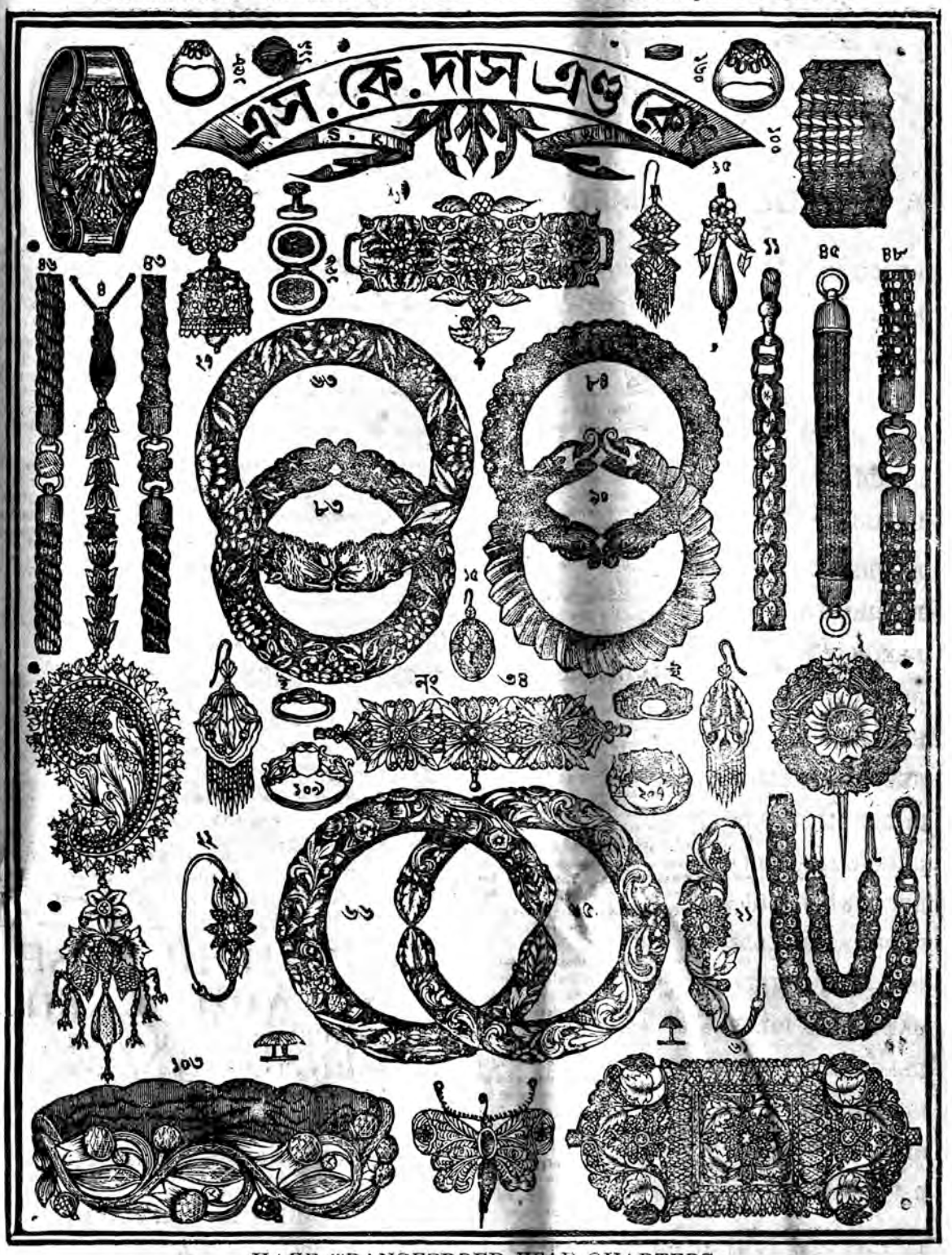

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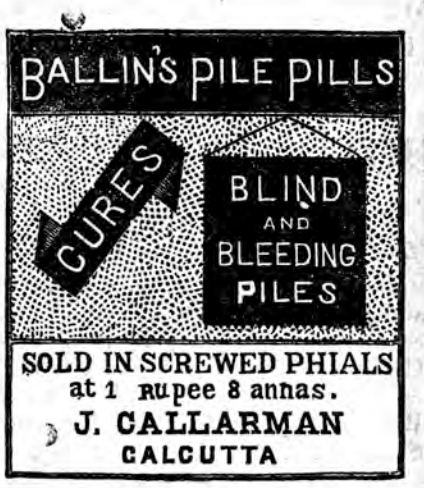

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PROSPECTUS.

HURLED from its high pinnacle of civilization by the cyclic changes of matter, our dearly beloved mother-land has been a field for the successive strifes of the Persian, the Tartar, the Moslem and our present Governors. Under such a series of foreign thraldom, it was impossible for her to remain uncontaminated, gradually her children lost sight of the Ideal and mistaking the Unreal for the Real, turned from the paths of pristine innocence, purity and knowledge, to that of secular advantage, secured by a life-service to the new conquerors or their satraps. The wise lost heart, they kept to the old grooves, and encouraged others to follow, but to no purpose.

It is indeed a sorrowful sight to find the struggle for existence gaining a strong ascendency over us everywhere. Materialism is the scourage of our day ; and it has now come to supplant idealism. But it cannot be insisted too often, that a nation without spirituality is but on the road to ruin and self-destruction ; a thirst for the material comforts in this life induced the bulk of the nation to hunger after wealth and position, to rush head-long after them, undeterred by the teachings and precepts of those who from a life-long study knew what was best for them. We are no longer satisfied as our forefathers used to be, increased civilization means increased luxury, that has become a necessity, and for its gratification we must have increased resources and that again signifies our best attention and energies in pursuit of wealth. With successive generations the gulf grew wider, the thirst for service grew universal and the quite engrossing study of the Aryan Rishis, their sacred books and writings came to a stand-still. Unable to comprehend the esoteric meaning, for having lost the right key to their comprehension, they shewed an utter derision, a through heartlessness, an unmistakable contempt and pity for such who would trust to them. They in the zenith of their earthly glory, with the elements of a foreign education and dubbed with academic titles and distinctions thought themselves wiser than their fathers, and looked upon the present aspect of things as the best. The Ramayana and the Mahabharata were fabulous tales spun out into coarse yarns, without any redeeming feature ; even the Vedas and Puranas were no better.

But the times we live in are extremely auspicious. Though the twice-born has retired from the conspicuous position of his ancestors behind the desk of a Government office, or a merchant's counter, leaving the key to rust in the lock of Brahmanic lore, to be turned by the patriotic and philanthropic erudition of a Max Müller,—till whipped into a sense of duty by the mighty hand of an Olcott,—these "bad Aryans" have returned in fealty and allegiance to the mother-country, and are now preparing in one grand effort to put the shoulder to the wheel. What a glorious sight ! How much does it augur well for these ill-fated country ! ! Thanks to the late Swamy Dayanand Saraswati and other allumini, there is an increasing activity noticeable everywhere for a study of our *Shastras* and what they teach, and the English education which had hitherto turned our youngmen into rank materialists, or scientific atheists, is now giving way for a more healthy spirit of inquiry for our ancient philosophies.

It is natural to suppose that under the new and better order of things a want will be felt in the paucity of the old writings. We have neglected to learn the Sanskrit and have almost Europeanised ourselves in the matter of language ; English has taken the place of our own, it is the language in which we carry on and transact business and consequently an attempt has been made to bring out a series of Vedantic and other works in an English garb.

The main doctrine of the Vedanta Philosophy is the identity and inseparability of the Ever-lasting Intelligence and Bliss, the *Parabrahma*, with the Individual Spirit (*Atma*) or the 7th priciple, that is to say, the Individual Spirit and the Absolute are non-different. If this be once realised and action taken accordingly, so as not to confound this world of matter transitory in duration, and full of misery, grief and suffering, as something real and substantial, durable and full of happiness, the mind unfettered from the shackles of *Maya* and *Avidya*, will gradually soar to sublime heights, there to pause and reflect, ponder and weigh, and gather new materials for the emancipation of the Spirit.

Thus then, if these works would tend to increase the national Spirituality, if they would be the means of inviting the active sympathies of our youngmen and old, and stimulate them to study our ancient writings and the faith they inculcate, if they would stem the tide of materialism and supplant them with the noble and high aspirations which Non-duality teaches, if they will suppress bad *Karma* and incite the good of our fellow-creatures, we would think ourselves highly gratified and amply repaid. If our inner consciousness may be roused to perceive and feel the utter worthlessness and unreality of this world, and if we draw our lessons from the sad experience of nations that have preceded us, we may receive a check in our headlong path to ruin. That this may so be is the earnest and fervent prayer of the Publisher.

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